

Iraq reports new attacks

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iraqi warplanes on Saturday struck Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal, a military camp, in addition to 84 bombing sorties against gun positions and troop emplacements, a military spokesman announced. Kharg was hit at 1:40 p.m. when the targets were set afire, he said. The spokesman in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Radio: "The second raid at 2:15 p.m. annihilated the scattered enemy and destroyed their equipment and military installations at (the northern border region of) Baneh," he said. The spokesman added that "during the day, our jet fighters raided enemy positions" in three regions along the 1,180-kilometre war front. "In a total of 84 combat missions, our military aircraft inflicted enormous losses on the enemy, both in lives, vehicles and equipment," he added.

No side can win Gulf war, Soviet aide says, page 2

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية الراي

Assad confers with Franjeh

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad on Saturday received former Lebanese President Suleiman Franjeh, a Syrian spokesman said. Mr. Franjeh is a firm Syrian ally, but opposes parts of the recent Lebanese militia pact which propose reducing the powers of the Christian-held presidency, and ending the power-sharing system favouring Lebanon's Christian minority. Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam meanwhile met militia officials, whom he was expected to brief on Mr. Assad's two-days of talks with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel. In Beirut, Mr. Gemayel, who has yet to endorse the militia pact, discussed his trip to Damascus with former President Camille Chamoun, another critic of the agreement. Mr. Chamoun told reporters Mr. Gemayel would return to Syria at the end of next week "to present new ideas, if there are any."

Falangists seize East Beirut magazine, page 2

Volume 11 Number 3061

AMMAN, SUNDAY JANUARY 5, 1986, RABIA AL THANI 23, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Cement company names new chief

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC) has appointed Mr. Bashir Riad Al Mifleh as chairman of its board of directors and Khalid Al Thaher as his deputy and company general manager. The measure takes effect immediately, according to a decision taken by a statement issued on Saturday by the JCFC board. The JCFC board groups representatives of the Arab Bank, the Housing Bank, the Pension Fund and the Social Security Corporation in addition to Mr. Bashir Al Tabbaa, Mr. Sulaiman Al Dair, Mr. Ziyad Ibrahim, Mr. Kamal Jreissat and Mr. Youssef Al Hazi.

Politician wounded in Beirut attack

BEIRUT (R) — A pro-Syrian politician was wounded in an ambush in west Beirut on Saturday, sparking gun battles in the mostly Muslim sector of the capital, political sources said. Beirut Radio said a socialist of Lebanon's Syrian Nationalist Social Party (SNSP) and another man were killed when their car was ambushed. But sources at the SNSP, which champions the integration of Lebanon into a "greater Syria," said they had only been wounded. They refused to identify the two men. Automatic rifle and rocket-propelled grenade fire was heard later in clashes the radio said were triggered by the ambush, near the American University of Beirut.

Gorbachev to visit India this year

NEW DELHI (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is expected to pay his first visit to India this year, the Times of India reported on Saturday. The newspaper said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who visited Moscow last October, was looking forward to the meeting. It gave no date.

Belfast protesters attack police

BELFAST (R) — Screaming Protestant demonstrators attacked police with bricks, bottles and stones on Saturday outside the heavily-guarded headquarters of a controversial Anglo-Irish secretariat set up by London and Dublin last year. Police said 20 officers and a number of civilians were injured in the protest against an accord giving the mainly Catholic Irish Republic a consultative role in the future of Protestant-dominated Northern Ireland, a British province.

Israeli official says warplane will be ready by September

TEL AVIV (AP) — The head of the Israeli aircraft industries said Saturday that the initial prototype of the first Israeli-produced fighter-bomber will be in the air by September 1986. Speaking on Israeli Radio, David Ivi, a former air force chief, said production of the plane was proceeding according to schedule. "I think the main constraint is budgetary; there are no technological or capability constraints," Ivi said.

INSIDE

- * No side can win Gulf war, Soviet official says, page 2
- * Lawzi leads delegation to Egypt, page 3
- * A review of 1985 and outlook for 1986, page 4
- * Former Australian ambassador recalls three years in Jordan with pleasure, page 5
- * Becker, Wilander to clash in Masters Final, page 6
- * Mexico tells Reagan Latin America need growth to repay debts, page 7
- * SDI may work in favour of Moscow, experts say, page 8

Arabs warn U.S. and Israel against attacking Libya

Soviets pledge full support for Libyans

Combined agency dispatches

THE ARAB LEAGUE and Egypt have warned the United States and Israel against attacking Libya for last week's attacks at Rome and Vienna airports.

The Arab League said Israeli and U.S. charges that Libya was behind the attacks served to heighten tension in the Middle East and the Mediterranean. Arab commentators from Morocco to Kuwait issued similar warnings after reports that the U.S. and Israel were considering punitive action against Libya. In Kuwait, acting Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah said after meeting U.S. Ambassador Antony Quainton: "We stressed to him that we are against terror (and) against threats to any Arab state."

An official Soviet committee on Saturday expressed Kremlin support for Libya and criticised the United States and Israel for "kindling a hostile campaign against Libya."

The Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, a state-run group whose statements could not be issued or published without official endorsement, said recent Israeli and U.S. actions towards Libya "are the cause of serious concern of the Soviet public," the official news agency TASS said. But the statement did not say

what action the Soviets planned if the United States or Israel takes military action against Libya.

The statement said "Washington and Tel Aviv, kindling a hostile campaign against Libya, are preparing ground for new aggressive anti-Arab actions."

It charged that both the Israelis and the Americans were planning military strikes against Libya and added:

"Expressing their solidarity with the people of the Libyan Jamahiriya, who are courageously upholding their national sovereignty, the Soviet people firmly demand an end to the campaign of provocations and threats against that Arab country and attempts of interference into its internal affairs."

Syria has also vowed to support Libya in the case of an Israeli or U.S. strike.

The Syrian News Agency SANA quoted an authoritative government source as saying: "Syria will extend support for Libya in every way possible, including political and military support, in the face of any aggression."

SANA accused the United States of supporting Israeli plans for "aggression (against Libya) long before the (Rome and Vienna) attacks took place."

"The United States wants Israel to use the attacks as a pretext for an aggression to cover up the defeats of U.S. policies in the region," SANA quoted its source as saying.

In a statement issued in Tunis, the Arab League said that it "reproved all intimidation against any Arab state and stood firmly at the side of all Arab states threatened by aggression."

The League reiterated its condemnation of "all acts of terrorism and barbarism," but said that statements by Israel and the United States accusing Libya would only "increase the tension in the Middle East and in the Mediterranean region."

It said threats and movements of troops could have "disastrous consequences" in the area. The Arab League said the "wave of violence will not be held back with condemnation alone" and that "reprisals will only bring a radical solution."

The statement said it was regrettable that the United States "refuses to make the link between acts of violence that some are led to commit and the state terrorism practised by Israel against the Palestinian people."

The organisation said that the

(Continued on page 3)

Italy debates alleged Libyan role in attack

ROME (Agencies) — Amid signs of growing tension in the Mediterranean area, Italian ministers met on Saturday to try to determine whether Libya had a role in last week's bloody attacks at Rome and Vienna airports.

Pressure to try to establish whether the Libyans supported the raids last month, in which 19 people, including five Americans, were killed has increased after reports that the United States is considering economic and military action against Libya.

Reagan administration officials said earlier that the White House was studying possible economic and military moves, including air strikes, in retaliation for what they called Libyan support of terrorism.

Although the Italian cabinet expressed its opposition on Friday to any military action in the Mediterranean, Prime Minister Bettino Craxi said that Italy would be obliged to reconsider its relations with Tripoli should Libya prove to have been actively involved in the attacks.

Libya has denied any part in the raids, which it says are being used by the United States and Israel as a pretext for aggression.

Saturday's meeting of Italian ministers, including Mr. Craxi, Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini and Foreign Affairs Minister Giulio Andreotti, follows a statement on Friday by the West German government that there is growing evidence that Libya supported the guerrilla attacks.

Several Italian newspapers have reported that the magistrate investigating the Rome attack was considering issuing an arrest warrant for Abu Nidal, the radical Palestinian guerrilla suspected of masterminding the attacks.

Mr. Arafat's visit follows improved relations between Syria and Jordan.

Mr. Arafat's political advisor, Hani Al Hassan, told Reuters two days ago the PLO was prepared to restore normal relations with Damascus and was studying a Syrian offer of rapprochement.

Syria expelled Mr. Arafat in 1983 and has since supported Palestinian groups opposed to his policies.

Mr. Arafat said in a television interview on Friday that the PLO warned European governments well before the Rome and Vienna airport massacres that terrorists were preparing "many attacks against various objects."

Mr. Arafat, interviewed by the Italian-language Swiss TV, said specifically that the PLO warned the governments of Italy, Austria and Switzerland "about a month ago" of these plans.

"These terrorist attacks against our friends in Europe are not only aimed against their citizens but also against the Arab-European relations," he said in the brief interview, according to the simultaneous Italian translation from the English original.

The PLO has denied carrying out the two attacks. A top Palestinian source in Cairo was quoted on Wednesday as saying that Israel had planned to attack PLO bases in North Yemen and Sudan in November.



KING VISITS GHQ: His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, confers with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid during a visit he paid to the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces on Saturday (Petra photo)

Israeli troops, SLA men storm S. Lebanese villages

Israel moves armour into 'security zone'

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli troops were reported on Saturday to have moved 30 tanks into their self-proclaimed "security zone" in South Lebanon as their South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia allies came under fresh attacks. Israeli troops and SLA men also stormed three villages outside the "security zone."

The sources, who spoke to the AP on condition they were not named, said the armour was concentrated in the northernmost salient of the Israeli-occupied zone that juts into the eastern Bekaa Valley.

The sources said one militiaman of the Israeli-backed SLA was killed and four wounded when Lebanese fighters ambushed them near Delfafa in the western Bekaa Valley on Saturday.

The SLA retaliated by storming Delfafa and several neighbouring villages and seized at least 10 men suspected of aiding the fighters of Lebanon's National Resistance Front, the sources reported.

The border war has heated up over the last week as resistance

fighters intensified hit-and-run attacks on the Israeli-occupied zone.

Several other SLA militiamen were reported killed or wounded by mines near Qilaya village, eight kilometres southeast of the SLA-held town of Jezzine.

Israeli troops and SLA men in armoured vehicles also fired rocket-propelled grenades as they combed the villages of Yater, Kafra and Haddatha on the edge of Israel's self-styled "security zone," the sources told Reuters.

Israeli jets later flew over South Lebanon, the agency quoted witnesses as saying.

The SLA, backed by an estimated 1,000 Israelis, patrols the "security zone" set up when Israel withdrew its regular army from Lebanon last June.

After a rocket hit the northern Israeli settlement of Kiryat Shmuna on Thursday, Israel said it would retaliate for attacks launched from Lebanese soil.

Heavy fighting erupted overnight between the SLA and Lebanese fighters on battle lines at

Kfar Falous village 10 kilometres from Sidon.

SLA gunners fired into the eastern outskirts of the city, but no casualties were reported.

Fighting around Kfar Falous intensified on new year's eve and SLA shelling killed three people in Sidon on Thursday.

Justice Minister Nabih Berri said the Israeli actions in the south were aimed at undermining a peace agreement signed last week by Lebanon's three main militias.

"Israel is trying to block the agreement and engineer a new phase of the Lebanese crisis through its new approach in South Lebanon," he said.

Israel was raising "the pretext of rockets being fired into Galilee, while forgetting the artillery and tank shells that crash daily into the liberated areas," Mr. Berri said.

Beirut Radio said Prime Minister Rashid Karami had told Lebanon's representative at the United Nations to ask for a Security Council meeting to consider a formal complaint over Israeli actions in the south.

Arafat in Baghdad, meets Aziz

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived in Baghdad Friday night and met Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

It said the two men discussed relations between Iraq and the PLO and latest developments of the Palestinian issue. It did not elaborate.

Mr. Arafat's visit follows improved relations between Syria and Jordan.

Mr. Arafat's political advisor, Hani Al Hassan, told Reuters two days ago the PLO was prepared to restore normal relations with Damascus and was studying a Syrian offer of rapprochement.

Syria expelled Mr. Arafat in 1983 and has since supported Palestinian groups opposed to his policies.

Mr. Arafat said in a television interview on Friday that the PLO warned European governments well before the Rome and Vienna airport massacres that terrorists were preparing "many attacks against various objects."

Mr. Arafat, interviewed by the Italian-language Swiss TV, said specifically that the PLO warned the governments of Italy, Austria and Switzerland "about a month ago" of these plans.

"These terrorist attacks against our friends in Europe are not only aimed against their citizens but also against the Arab-European relations," he said in the brief interview, according to the simultaneous Italian translation from the English original.

The PLO has denied carrying out the two attacks. A top Palestinian source in Cairo was quoted on Wednesday as saying that Israel had planned to attack PLO bases in North Yemen and Sudan in November.

Jordan joins accord against hostage-taking

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has decided to join other world nations in signing an international accord against hostage-taking, crimes against diplomats and offences against civil aviation.

The decision to sign the accord was taken on Saturday at a cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai. The cabinet authorised Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri to sign the accord.

Jordan has contributed to formulating previous accords against terrorism and hostage-taking between 1976 and 1979, since Jordan has direct interest in such agreements and in their implementation, a cabinet statement said.

Previous accords were signed by 40 nations in 1984, and 25 others submitted documents endorsing the accords, the statement added.

The United Nations Security Council has unanimously condemned all acts of hostage-taking and abductions and called for the safe release of all hostages. The resolution, passed on Dec. 18, also called for the immediate safe release of hostages everywhere. It

affirmed the obligation of all states in whose territory hostages are held to take all appropriate measures to secure their release and to prevent any future abductions.

The resolution, which followed a similar one adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on Dec. 11, appealed to all states to consider signing existing international accords in this respect.

At its session on Saturday, the cabinet also endorsed a Jordanian-Iraqi cooperation programme which was signed in Amman last month. The cabinet approved the minutes of Jordanian-Syrian meetings which were held in Damascus in November and decided on the formation of Jordanian sub-committees to study ways of economic cooperation between Jordan and Syria.

The cabinet also endorsed a new amendment to the imports regulations "in accordance with the requirement of the new 1986 national budget to conform to the new amendments to the new customs regulations."

CBJ amends cash margin regulations for local banks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has introduced changes in the rate of cash margin required by commercial banks and financial institutions upon opening letters of credit, sight drafts and bank-accepted time drafts, as originally included in the 66th article of the CBJ's regulations.

A statement issued by CBJ Governor Hussein Al Qasem said that commercial banks can fix their own margin rates when opening letters of credit for the importation of primary materials used in local industries, food processing and manufacturing, basic commodities and other products used by contractors employed to carry out work for ministries and gov-

ernment departments, provided they do not fall below the 10 per cent level, down from 25 per cent as stated in the original regulations.

Cash margin will be 20 per cent, up from 15 per cent on letters of credit for the importation of building materials, and will be 30 per cent up from 25 per cent on letters of credit on other imports, Mr. Qasem said. He said these amendments, which will go into effect immediately, are in line with recent cabinet decisions designed to support national industry, and which provided for increasing customs duty on a number of imported commodities and reducing them on others.

Arab League discusses Spanish, African moves

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Arab League Council on Saturday was discussing Spain's decision to establish diplomatic relations with Israel and was considering issuing a call on Spain to reconsider its decision and remain committed to supporting Arab rights in Palestine and denouncing Israel's practices in the occupied territories and its settlement policy.

Spain announced on New Year's Day that it plans to establish diplomatic relations with Israel later this year.

The council, which met at foreign ministers' level in response to a call by Libya and Syria to discuss the issue of moves by some African and other states to restore diplomatic relations with Israel, was also reviewing Afro-Arab relations in the light of new developments. Libya and Syria are attending the meeting.

Israel said last month that Ivory Coast was planning to restore diplomatic relations with the Jewish state.

Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi, who opened the meeting, stressed the need for concerted Arab moves to counter and foil intensified Israeli moves to increase its presence and influence in Africa and saw anti-Arab sentiments in African states.

Mr. Klibi also condemned the apartheid policy of South Africa and said South African-Israeli collaboration is blocking liberation movements.

The same sentiment was voiced by Kuwait on Saturday when it called on African states to adopt a consistent approach to dealings with Israel and South Africa, which it said had similar racist policies.

Abdul Aziz Hussein, an adviser to the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, said on leaving for the special meeting in Tunis that steps would be taken to convince African states to review ties with Israel.

The Kuwait News Agency quoted Mr. Hussein as saying: "In both entities there is a racist state. We have to be consistent with ourselves in dealing with the two racist states."

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) also requested the special meeting to discuss Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's call for it to accept U.N. resolutions recognising Israel's right to exist in return for a withdrawal from occupied Arab lands.

Mr. Hussein, who will also head Kuwait's delegation to a meeting of Islamic foreign ministers in Fez, Morocco, next Monday said items on the agenda included the Iran-Iraq war, the Palestinian cause, Israeli expansionism and the situation in Afghanistan.

The Abu Dhabi newspaper Al Itihad reported on Saturday that Libya plans to seek support at next Monday's meeting of the foreign ministers of the 45-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Some members of the conference also participate in the 22-member Arab League.

Libya has requested that the issue of U.S. threats against it be added to the agenda of Monday's ministerial meeting, "and that a joint Islamic stand be adopted," Al Itihad said.

The Arab League, in a statement issued in Tunis, has expressed its support for Libya in the face of threats by the United States.

It said that the League "rejected all intimidation against any Arab state and stood firmly at the side of all Arab states threatened by aggression."

An Iranian delegation arrived in Rabat on Friday for the Islamic foreign ministers meeting.

The Moroccan news agency MAP said the delegation was led by Mohammad Ali Deskhiri, vice-president of the Islamic Information Organisation.

Soviet official says no side can win Iran-Iraq war

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A Soviet Communist Party official said in remarks published on Saturday that the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq, well into its sixth year, had reached a stalemate and neither side would win.

Al Watan newspaper quoted Karim Brutents, a deputy chief of the International Department of the party's Central Committee, as saying: "The Iran-Iraq war has reached deadlock, and no side will achieve victory."

The Soviet Union was ready to exert political efforts to try end the war, he said, "but America doesn't want this."

He said there was no discussion of new weapons supplies to Iraq during President Saddam Hussein's visit to Moscow last month, but gave no details of what the talks did cover.

The official ruled out any move in the foreseeable future to restore diplomatic ties with Israel, severed after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war because of "Israeli aggression."

"These conditions still prevail, and we don't see any reason to restore relations with Israel," he said.

Other Eastern bloc countries

Mr. Brutents charged that the United States was bent on aggravating the Gulf war "because they want to broaden the scope of the American military presence in the region... the Americans also want to exploit the internal situation in Iran, with a view to changing things in America's favour and to weakening the Arab camp."

He said that the Soviet Union "remains neutral between Iraq and Iran... but we are by no means neutral on the principle of ending that war."

Mr. Brutents accused Iran of also trying to prolong the war, stressing that the "Soviet Union will not support the side that wants to fight on and rejects peace initiatives."

"If the United States joined our stance, we would have been able to bring that war to an end," he said. "We in the Soviet Union are prepared to end the war, but the Americans do not want to end it or even agree with us on means of ending it."

Responding to a question, Mr. Brutents said that Moscow has been unable to pressure Libya and Syria into ceasing their support for Iran against Iraq.

He conceded that differences

existed between Moscow and the two Arab states on that score, saying that "We devise our policy on our own and they define theirs independently."

Referring to Syria and Israel, Brutents said "Israel should not flex its military muscle on Syria, and the Israelis should take the Soviet Union into consideration when they toy with the idea of hurting Syria."

Referring to Syria-Iraq differences, Brutents conceded failure of recent Soviet efforts to arrange a rapprochement between the two Arab states, which are ruled by rival wings of the Arab Socialist Baath party.

Asked about Afghanistan, Mr. Brutents said the Soviet Union was "prepared to withdraw from Afghanistan, but the United States and Pakistan will first have to stop meddling in the internal affairs of that country."

"As of now, there are more than 100 camps in Afghanistan where counter-revolutionaries are being trained," he said. "Pakistani military experts have been sent to Afghanistan, and the Americans last year gave the Afghan counter-revolutionaries military aid worth \$400 million."

Mr. Brutents said that Moscow has been unable to pressure Libya and Syria into ceasing their support for Iran against Iraq.

He conceded that differences

existed between Moscow and the two Arab states on that score, saying that "We devise our policy on our own and they define theirs independently."

Referring to Syria and Israel, Brutents said "Israel should not flex its military muscle on Syria, and the Israelis should take the Soviet Union into consideration when they toy with the idea of hurting Syria."

Referring to Syria-Iraq differences, Brutents conceded failure of recent Soviet efforts to arrange a rapprochement between the two Arab states, which are ruled by rival wings of the Arab Socialist Baath party.

Asked about Afghanistan, Mr. Brutents said the Soviet Union was "prepared to withdraw from Afghanistan, but the United States and Pakistan will first have to stop meddling in the internal affairs of that country."

"As of now, there are more than 100 camps in Afghanistan where counter-revolutionaries are being trained," he said. "Pakistani military experts have been sent to Afghanistan, and the Americans last year gave the Afghan counter-revolutionaries military aid worth \$400 million."

Mr. Brutents said that Moscow has been unable to pressure Libya and Syria into ceasing their support for Iran against Iraq.

He conceded that differences

French hostages in Lebanon said near release

PARIS (Agencies) — The four French hostages being held in Lebanon are no longer in the hands of their kidnappers and may be on the point of being released, Claude Thierset, editor-in-chief of the photo agency Sipa Press has said.

"When I made contact again with the people to whom you could call the presumed kidnappers of the French hostages, they told me that the affair was in the process of winding up, that the Hezbollah were no longer a part in this affair of hostages," Mr. Thierset said in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo.

The Committee for the Support of the Kidnapped Frenchmen also acknowledged that "something is moving." A spokesman for the committee, which includes Joelle Kauffmann, wife of one of the hostages, said it "seems they have been moved."

Mr. Thierset has been to Lebanon three times recently making contacts. The editor was closely involved in obtaining the release of one of his photographers, Alfred Yagodzinski, who was held hostage for several weeks last year.

Mr. Thierset said the fact that his contacts said they no longer were involved "means that the hostages are no longer in the hands of the Hezbollah at the present time. We can therefore envisage that there will be a release in the more or less near future of the French hostages."

The photo editor said there most probably was Syrian involvement.

"Without saying that the hostages are in the hands of the Syrians, they are surely under Syrian control," he said. "After the contacts that I made, I believe that the hostages were transferred at the moment when Joelle Kauffmann and her family were in Beirut, perhaps toward the Bekka plain."

The French hostages are Jean-Paul Kauffmann, a journalist working for the weekly Evénement Du Jeudi who was abducted on May 22; Michel Seurat, a researcher for the French Centre for Studies and Research of the Contemporary Middle East, also kidnapped on May 22; Marcel Fontaine, vice consul at the French embassy in Beirut captured on March 22; and Marcel Carlon, the embassy's protocol officer, kidnapped on March 22.

The French External Relations Ministry declined to comment on the report.

The four were believed to be held by the shadowy pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad (holy war) group, which was reported to have demanded an even-handed approach in French arms sales to Gulf enemies Iran and Iraq and the release of five people jailed in France for plotting to kill a former Iranian prime minister in 1980.

France has been Iraq's second largest arms supplier after the Soviet Union in its war with Iran.

Swiss probe possible link between arrested man and airport attacks

ZURICH (R) — Swiss police said Saturday they were checking if any links existed between an Arab who was arrested in Zurich on Dec. 23 and the twin attacks at Rome and Vienna airports four days later.

A spokesman said the man had been arrested at Zurich airport with false Moroccan papers and was still in custody. Investigations were continuing to determine his identity.

"We are checking if there is any link with the attacks," the spokesman added. He did not know if the man was armed.

Rome investigators believe the commandos came through Switzerland and may have taken their instructions for the raids while there. Swiss officials have confirmed that one commando involved in the Vienna attack passed through Switzerland, but say they have no information pointing to a Swiss base.

In a Swiss television interview

Friday, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat said he had warned Austria, Italy and Switzerland that some sort of terrorist activity was planned.

But a senior Justice Ministry official said Switzerland was unaware of any such warning.

"I warned friendly governments... that something was ahead," he said. Mr. Arafat then named Austria and Italy. Asked if he had also warned Switzerland, he replied: "Yes, Switzerland, too."

Shamir reportedly to visit Washington to straighten out problems over spy affair

TEL AVIV (AP) — Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir wants to visit Washington this month to straighten out any lingering problems with the United States over the Jonathan Pollard spy affair, the Davar newspaper has said.

But a Foreign Ministry official, who asked not to be identified, denied the report in the Israeli Labour Party daily.

In a long article about the arrest of the U.S. Navy intelligence analyst, Davar's Washington correspondent also wrote that three days before his arrest on Nov. 21, Pollard was stopped by FBI agents in the car park of the Anti-Terror Research Centre in Suitland, Maryland, where he worked. They looked at an envelope he was carrying and noted that 20 of the 60 documents inside were marked "Top Secret or more than that."

The agents accompanied Pollard home and found 60 more Top Secret documents hidden under his wife's clothing. They contained intelligence evaluations of foreign armies, including China.

Pollard was allowed to go but 20 agents were assigned to keep Pollard under surveillance around the clock without drawing attention to themselves, Davar said.

Two days before the arrest, the agents decided that Pollard was spying, but did not know for which country, Davar said.

On Nov. 29, Pollard phoned the Israeli embassy and the next day he was arrested outside the embassy compound. He was later charged with spying for Israel.

The security officer who turned Pollard away at the embassy was interviewed by the FBI with the approval of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Davar said.

Davar also wrote that his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard worked in a public relations firm and had tried to win a contract with the Chinese embassy in Washington.

The newspaper wrote that Pollard attended meetings of the conservative "Heritage" Foundation in Washington. The Foundation granted Pollard from its mailing list immediately after his arrest, Davar quoted its coordinator Tony Fauler as saying.

assay compound. He was later charged with spying for Israel.

The security officer who turned Pollard away at the embassy was interviewed by the FBI with the approval of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Davar said.

Davar also wrote that his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard worked in a public relations firm and had tried to win a contract with the Chinese embassy in Washington.

The newspaper wrote that Pollard attended meetings of the conservative "Heritage" Foundation in Washington. The Foundation granted Pollard from its mailing list immediately after his arrest, Davar quoted its coordinator Tony Fauler as saying.

The security officer who turned Pollard away at the embassy was interviewed by the FBI with the approval of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Davar said.

Davar also wrote that his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard worked in a public relations firm and had tried to win a contract with the Chinese embassy in Washington.

The newspaper wrote that Pollard attended meetings of the conservative "Heritage" Foundation in Washington. The Foundation granted Pollard from its mailing list immediately after his arrest, Davar quoted its coordinator Tony Fauler as saying.

The security officer who turned Pollard away at the embassy was interviewed by the FBI with the approval of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Davar said.

Davar also wrote that his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard worked in a public relations firm and had tried to win a contract with the Chinese embassy in Washington.

The newspaper wrote that Pollard attended meetings of the conservative "Heritage" Foundation in Washington. The Foundation granted Pollard from its mailing list immediately after his arrest, Davar quoted its coordinator Tony Fauler as saying.

The security officer who turned Pollard away at the embassy was interviewed by the FBI with the approval of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Davar said.

Davar also wrote that his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard worked in a public relations firm and had tried to win a contract with the Chinese embassy in Washington.

The newspaper wrote that Pollard attended meetings of the conservative "Heritage" Foundation in Washington. The Foundation granted Pollard from its mailing list immediately after his arrest, Davar quoted its coordinator Tony Fauler as saying.

The security officer who turned Pollard away at the embassy was interviewed by the FBI with the approval of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Davar said.

Davar also wrote that his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard worked in a public relations firm and had tried to win a contract with the Chinese embassy in Washington.

The newspaper wrote that Pollard attended meetings of the conservative "Heritage" Foundation in Washington. The Foundation granted Pollard from its mailing list immediately after his arrest, Davar quoted its coordinator Tony Fauler as saying.

The security officer who turned Pollard away at the embassy was interviewed by the FBI with the approval of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Davar said.

Davar also wrote that his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard worked in a public relations firm and had tried to win a contract with the Chinese embassy in Washington.

The newspaper wrote that Pollard attended meetings of the conservative "Heritage" Foundation in Washington. The Foundation granted Pollard from its mailing list immediately after his arrest, Davar quoted its coordinator Tony Fauler as saying.

The security officer who turned Pollard away at the embassy was interviewed by the FBI with the approval of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Davar said.

Davar also wrote that his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard worked in a public relations firm and had tried to win a contract with the Chinese embassy in Washington.

The newspaper wrote that Pollard attended meetings of the conservative "Heritage" Foundation in Washington. The Foundation granted Pollard from its mailing list immediately after his arrest, Davar quoted its coordinator Tony Fauler as saying.

The security officer who turned Pollard away at the embassy was interviewed by the FBI with the approval of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Davar said.

Syria has removed missiles from Lebanon, reports say

WASHINGTON (R) — Syria has taken its disputed surface-to-air missiles out of Lebanon and moved them back to its side of the border, according to U.S. television networks.

ABC News and CBS News said, without quoting sources, that they had learned that Syria pulled its SA-6 and SA-8 missiles out of Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and moved them across the border to Syria.

Israel had demanded that the missiles be withdrawn, contending they were a threat to the "strategic balance" in the region.

There had been some speculation in the world media that Israel might launch a strike against the missiles and that this could lead to a generalised war with

Syria.

U.S. State Department and Pentagon spokesmen said they had no independent knowledge of the reported move.

Israeli military sources in Tel Aviv told Reuters they had no confirmation the missiles had been moved out of Lebanon.

Israel Radio reported the Syrians had withdrawn and then redeployed the mobile SA-6 and SA-8 batteries several times during the past two weeks, apparently for tactical reasons.

It said the Israeli military believed the missiles were stationed in Lebanon mainly to protect SA-2 batteries just across the border in Syria from attack.

Israel has vowed to continue its regular air missions over Syrian-controlled eastern Lebanon.

Iran's opposition calls for international boycott

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Three Iranians displayed scars they said were the result of torture and have called for an international boycott of the Islamic government.

Hossein Dadkhah, 29, said he lost three toes after being whipped with knotted electric cables in an Iranian prison.

Avatollah "Khomeini lives on an ocean of blood," said Dadkhah, who said he was tortured in front of his wife and daughter after his arrest in December 1982. He said his wife was imprisoned and executed in April 1984.

The three former prisoners appeared at a news conference called by supporters of the People's Mujahadeen Organisation of Iran. Amir Zamani, spokesman for

the Iranian mission to the United Nations, denied there was torture in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

But Narges Shavesteh, 27, said at the news conference she was subjected to nine types of torture. She unbuttoned her blouse to show a part of her left breast, which had burn scars she said were inflicted by her captors' cigarettes during the 2½ years she was held in five different prisons.

Mojgan Homayounfar, 24, showed an artificial limb as she told how a soldier sliced off her left leg with a machete after she was arrested in September 1981.

The Mujahadeen group says there are more than 140,000 political prisoners in Iran and that Khomeini's followers have executed more than 50,000 people.

Falangists confiscate east Beirut magazine

BEIRUT (AP) — Falangist militia men started a printing press in east Beirut early Saturday and confiscated all issues of a Falangist-owned magazine critical of a Syrian-sponsored tripartite armistice accord designed to end the country's 10 years of civil war.

The weekly Al Massira is loyal to Israeli-backed Lebanese Forces Chief of Staff Samir Geagea, at odds with Elie Hobeika, the overall commander of the Falangist militia, because of the latter's pro-Syrian policy.

Al Massira was not sold in Beirut Saturday at all.

Falangist militia sources said their militiamen stormed the Joseph Reidi Printing Press shortly

after midnight and confiscated all issues before distribution.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the magazine's main editorial was devoted to criticising the Damascus accord, which Hobeika signed with Druze chieftain Walid Junblatt and Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri last Saturday.

They said its cover story was written under the following headline: "What would Hobeika achieve if he wins Syrian support and loses that of his own community."

It was the second time that Hobeika has clamped down on news media opposed to his peace drive in three months.

Iranians try to defuse missile aboard tanker

BAHRAIN (R) — Iranian navy experts have been called in to defuse an Iraqi missile that failed to explode after plunging into a Greek-owned oil tanker in the Gulf, shipping sources said Saturday.

The 134,011-ton Superior became the Gulf war's first shipping victims of 1986 when it was attacked on New Year's Day after loading oil at the main Iranian oil terminal of Kharg Island, the sources said.

Damage to the ship, owned by Troodos Shipping of Piraeus and flying the Cypriot flag, was slight and it continued under its own power to Iran's makeshift oil terminal at Sirri Island in the southern Gulf.

The ship was on an oil shuttle Iran runs between Kharg and Sirri, which sources say has been slowed in recent weeks by Iraqi attacks and a collision last month of two shuttle tankers.

Shipping sources in the region said last week that Iran planned to abandon Kharg for the duration of its war with Iraq, now in its sixth year.

The sources said there were no injuries to the mainly-Greek crew of the Superior, but they could not say where the missile hit it.

A number of missiles fired at during the Gulf war have failed to explode.

More than 45 ships were confirmed hit in missile attacks last year.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 73111-19

MAIN CHANNEL

16:00 Koran
16:30 Cartoons
16:50 Children's Programmes
17:50 Survival
18:15 Local Programme
18:45 Kuwait Series
19:30 News Programme
19:45 Programme Review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arab Series
21:35 Tomorrow's Programme
21:40 Local Varieties Series
23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 Le grand échiquier
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 It's Your Move
21:10 News in English
22:00 Best Seller: Operation Julie: Part 2

RADIO JORDAN
85.5 KHz. A.M.C. 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 96.0 KHz. SW
Tel: 4111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Pop Session Contd.
11:00 Evening Show
12:00 News Summary
12:45 Pop Session Contd.
13:00 News Summary
13:45 News Bulletin
14:10 Instruments
14:15 Science Report
15:00 News Summary
16:00 Instruments
16:05 Old Favorites
17:00 Listeners' Choice
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Jazz Hour
19:30 Newsweek
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:55 News Summary

Evening Show Contd.
23:00 News Summary
23:57 News Headline
24:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Julie Box Duty
06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections
07:00 World News 07:20 World News
07:30 News Summary 07:50 Short Takes
07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsweek
08:30 Jazz for the Aiding
09:00 World News 09:20 24 Hours
09:30 News Summary 09:50 From the Chair
10:00 Correspondence 10:20 World News
10:30 10:50 Reflections 10:15 The Pleasure's Yours 11:00 World News
11:10 British Press Review 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 A Perfect Day
12:00 News Summary 12:15 Classical Record Review 12:30 Religious Service
13:00 World News 13:30 News About Britain 13:15 From Our Own Correspondent 13:30 Baker's Half Dozen
14:00 News Summary: Play of the Week
14:45 Gaiter Workshop 15:00 World News 15:00 24 Hours: News Summary
15:30 Sports Round-up 15:45 The Saudi Jones Request Show 16:00 News Summary
16:30 Charlie 16:45 The Saudi Jones Request Show 17:00 Radio News
17:15 Concert Hall 17:40 Sports Special 18:00 World News 18:00 Commentary 18:15 My Kipling 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:00 World Phone-In 19:15 The Green Show
19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek
20:30 Hiwille USA 21:00 News Summary
21:15 Les Lumbardes 21:30 World News 22:00 24 Hours: News Summary
22:30 Sunday Half-Hour 23:00 News Summary: Short Story 23:15 The Pleasure's Yours 24:00 World News 08:00
Pace on Music 08:20 Best Choice
08:30 Financial News 08:40 Reflections
08:45 Sports Round-up 09:00 World News 09:00 24 Hours: News Summary
09:30 Questions of Faith

VOICE OF AMERICA
1260 KHz 7200, 9565, 1740, 11925 & 15210

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 06:30 News Summary 06:40 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 07:30 News Summary 07:40 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 08:30 News Summary 08:40 VOA Morning 08:50 News 09:00 VOA Morning 09:10 News Summary 09:20 VOA Morning 09:30 News 09:40 VOA Morning 09:50 News Summary 10:00 VOA Morning 10:10 News 10:20 VOA Morning 10:30 News Summary 10:40 VOA Morning 10:50 News 11:00 VOA Morning 11:10 News Summary 11:20 VOA Morning 11:30 News 11:40 VOA Morning 11:50 News Summary 12:00 VOA Morning 12:10 News 12:20 VOA Morning 12:30 News Summary 12:40 VOA Morning 12:50 News 13:00 VOA Morning 13:10 News Summary 13:20 VOA Morning 13:30 News 13:40 VOA Morning 13:50 News Summary 14:00 VOA Morning 14:10 News 14:20 VOA Morning 14:30 News Summary 14:40 VOA Morning 14:50 News 15:00 VOA Morning 15:10 News Summary 15:20 VOA Morning 15:30 News 15:40 VOA Morning 15:50 News Summary 16:00 VOA Morning 16:10 News 16:20 VOA Morning 16:30 News Summary 16:40 VOA Morning 16:50 News 17:00 VOA Morning 17:10 News Summary 17:20 VOA Morning 17:30 News 17:40 VOA Morning 17:50 News Summary 18:00 VOA Morning 18:10 News 18:20 VOA Morning 18:30 News Summary 18:40 VOA Morning 18:50 News 19:00 VOA Morning 19:10 News Summary 19:20 VOA Morning 19:30 News 19:40 VOA Morning 19:50 News Summary 20:00 VOA Morning 20:10 News 20:20 VOA Morning 20:30 News Summary 20:40 VOA Morning 20:50 News 21:00 VOA Morning 21:10 News Summary 21:20 VOA Morning 21:30 News 21:40 VOA Morning 21:50 News Summary 22:00 VOA Morning 22:10 News 22:20 VOA Morning 22:30 News Summary 22:40 VOA Morning 22:50 News 23:00 VOA Morning 23:10 News Summary 23:20 VOA Morning 23:30 News 23:40 VOA Morning 23:50 News Summary 24:00 VOA Morning 24:10 News 24:20 VOA Morning 24:30 News Summary 24:40 VOA Morning 24:50 News 25:00 VOA Morning 25:10 News Summary 25:20 VOA Morning 25:30 News 25:40 VOA Morning 25:50 News Summary 26:00 VOA Morning 26:10 News 26:20 VOA Morning 26:30 News Summary 26:40 VOA Morning 26:50 News 27:00 VOA Morning 27:10 News Summary 27:20 VOA Morning 27:30 News 27:40 VOA Morning 27:50 News Summary 28:00 VOA Morning 28:10 News 28:20 VOA Morning 28:30 News Summary 28:40 VOA Morning 28:50 News 29:00 VOA Morning 29:10 News Summary 29:20 VOA Morning 29:30 News 29:40 VOA Morning 29:50 News Summary 30:00 VOA Morning 30:10 News 30:20 VOA Morning 30:30 News Summary 30:40 VOA Morning 30:50 News 31:00 VOA Morning 31:10 News Summary 31:20 VOA Morning 31:30 News 31:40 VOA Morning 31:50 News Summary 32:00 VOA Morning 32:10 News 32:20 VOA Morning 32:30 News Summary 32:40 VOA Morning 32:50 News 33:00 VOA Morning 33:10 News Summary 33:20 VOA Morning 33:30 News 33:40 VOA Morning 33:50 News Summary 34:00 VOA Morning 34:10 News 34:20 VOA Morning 34:30 News Summary 34:40 VOA Morning 34:50 News 35:00 VOA Morning 35:10 News Summary 35:20 VOA Morning 35:30 News 35:40 VOA Morning 35:50 News Summary 36:00 VOA Morning 36:10 News 36:20 VOA Morning 36:30 News Summary 36:40 VOA Morning 36:50 News 37:00 VOA Morning 37:10 News Summary 37:20 VOA Morning 37:30 News 37:40 VOA Morning 37:50 News Summary 38:00 VOA Morning 38:10 News 38:20 VOA Morning 38:30 News Summary 38:40 VOA Morning 38:50 News 39:00 VOA Morning 39:10 News Summary 39:20 VOA Morning 39:30 News 39:40 VOA Morning 39:50 News Summary 40:00 VOA Morning 40:10 News 40:20 VOA Morning 40:30 News Summary 40:40 VOA Morning 40:50 News 41:00 VOA Morning 41:10 News Summary 41:20 VOA Morning 41:30 News 41:40 VOA Morning 41:50 News Summary 42:00 VOA Morning 42:10 News 42:20 VOA Morning 42:30 News Summary 42:40 VOA Morning 42:50 News 43:00 VOA Morning 43:10 News Summary 43:20 VOA Morning 43:30 News 43:40 VOA Morning 43:50 News Summary 44:00 VOA Morning 44:10 News 44:20 VOA Morning 44:30 News Summary 44:40 VOA Morning 44:50 News 45:00 VOA Morning 45:10 News Summary 45:20 VOA Morning 45:30 News 45:40 VOA Morning 45:50 News Summary 46:00 VOA Morning 46:10 News 46:20 VOA Morning 46:30 News Summary 46:40 VOA Morning 46:50 News 47:00 VOA Morning 47:10 News Summary 47:20 VOA Morning 47:30 News 47:40 VOA Morning 47:50 News Summary 48:00 VOA Morning 48:10 News 48:20 VOA Morning 48:30 News Summary 48:40 VOA Morning 48:50 News 49:00 VOA Morning 49:10 News Summary 49:20 VOA Morning 49:30 News 49:40 V

IIAS chief praises Jordan as perfect site for September forum

By Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan possesses all elements to be the venue of a forthcoming international congress of administrative science, organised by the Brussels-based International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) and due to be held here in September under Royal patronage, according to IIAS President Joseph Qaisar.

The committees looked into choosing a location for the congress in addition to scientific, administrative and training programmes for the congress. Other affiliated subcommittees were formed in the participating countries to lay down research and working plans to be discussed during the conference.

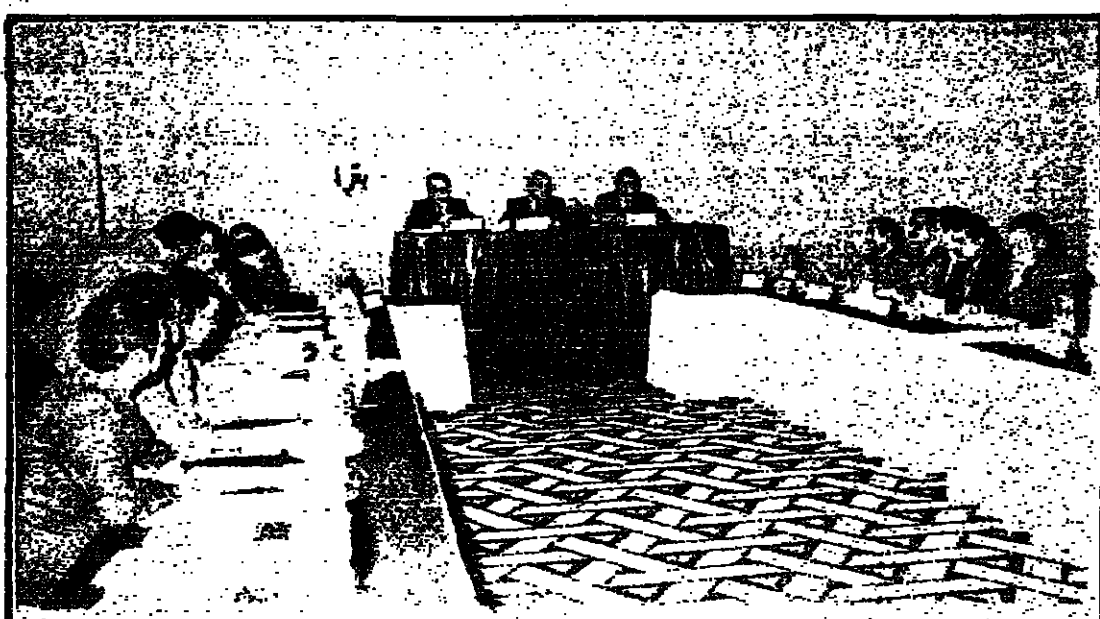
Commenting on the AOSAS role in preparing for the event, AOSAS President Nasser Sayegh told reporters that an Arab body affiliated with the Arab League Council has sought to hold the congress in Amman and gained Royal patronage.

This is the third such congress to be held outside Europe and the first in the Arab World. The first two such events took place in Mexico and the Ivory Coast.

On the aims of holding the congress in Amman, Dr. Sayegh said the congress would create interaction between Arab administrative thought and the modern trends in international administrative sciences, in addition to highlighting Arab administrative heritage.

The assembly will also open channels of cooperation between development institutions in the Arab World and their counterparts in the world at large. Such a move would help creating a common Arab administrative strategy.

The congress will issue documents and research papers to be distributed to administrative-related organisations and consortiums in the world at large to be used as references for future in-depth studies, Dr. Sayegh concluded.



Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh (centre) leads a Saturday meeting in cooperation with the Council for Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) for the purpose of establishing a federation of Arab drug manufacturers. CAEU Secretary General Mahdi Al Obeidi, seated to the right of Dr. Hamzeh, is addressing the group (Petra photo)

Hamzeh opens meeting to establish Arab drug manufacturer federation

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh opened a meeting on Saturday to discuss the establishment of an Arab federation for manufacturers of drugs and medical appliances.

The meeting was organised by the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), which sponsors the federation project. In a speech at the opening session Dr. Hamzeh underlined the importance of Arab economic cooperation and its role in supporting Arab economic health and strengthening inter-Arab ties.

The presence of an Arab pharmaceutical industry is a source of pride for all Arab citizens, Dr. Hamzeh said. He also urged Arab drug manufacturers to develop

their production so as to cope with modern technological challenges, and stressed the importance of imposing controls on the distribution of drugs and medicines.

CAEU Secretary General Mahdi Al Obeidi also addressed the opening session and emphasised the need for organising the pharmaceutical industries and improving the quality of the pharmaceutical products to meet the needs of people in the Arab World.

The proposed federation will address itself to finding markets for Arab pharmaceutical industries in an organised manner, Mr. Obeidi said.

The importance of the proposed federation stems from the fact that medicines have a direct effect on man's health, and so contribute to economic and social development in the Arab World, Mr. Obeidi added. He then voiced appreciation to the Health Ministry for its contribution to help establish the projected federation.

During the two-day meeting some 35 participants representing Arab pharmaceutical industries and drug manufacturers will discuss a memorandum submitted by the CAEU's general secretariat calling for the establishment of the federation, steps to be taken towards achieving that goal, and a proposed statute and by-laws for the federation.

Under the plan old water networks inside the cities will be gradually replaced at the rate of five per cent of their lengths annually in Amman, Salt, Irbid, Zarqa, Madaba, Ma'an, Mafraq, Karak, Tafleh, and in the Jordan Valley region. This will cost at least JD 22.5 million, according to Al Dustour.

Other projects included in the plan involve supplying water to various settlements at a cost of JD 13 million and improving the efficiency of other networks in different regions at a cost of JD 2.5 million.

Jordan's water system to be improved

AMMAN (J.T.) — The forthcoming 1986-1990 five-year development plan includes provisions for installing water networks and replacing old ones in different parts of the country at a total cost of JD 131 million, according to a report in the local Al Dustour Arabic daily newspaper.

The plan entails supplying water to central regions in Jordan, including Amman, from Al Mukheibeh springs near Irbid, at a rate of 26 million cubic metres annually. This project involves building wastewater treatment plants

and setting up other installations, pumping stations, and water tanks at a cost of JD 44 million. The plan provides for pumping water from the main reservoirs and tanks to the residential areas for domestic consumption and industrial use by building pumping stations and laying pipes at a cost of JD 32.5 million.

The plan also envisions spending JD 15 million to build water networks in the following cities: Ramtha, Mafraq, Ajloun, Anjara, Ain Jana, Kufrenjeh, Madaba, Karak, Tafleh and Ma'an.

Health Ministry enlists aid of leading medical specialists to promote clinics

AMMAN (Petra) — A number of leading Jordanian private medical specialists have agreed to cooperate with the Ministry of Health by offering medical advice in certain fields, with the purpose of promoting the work of government-controlled health centres, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said Saturday.

These advisors have consented to give their advice for nominal fees and will thus be offering excellent help to their colleagues employed at Al Bashir hospital in Amman, not only in medical examinations, but also in conducting

advanced surgical operations and in laying down training programmes for interns, Dr. Hamzeh said.

Initially the Health Ministry will cooperate with Dr. Gheith Shubailat, a plastic surgeon; Dr. Ashraf Al Kurdi, a neurologist; Dr. Suhail Saleh, a cardiologist; Dr. Mohammad Al Zahiri, an internist; Dr. Abdul Rahim Malhas, a surgeon; Dr. Nabil Atallah, an orthopaedist and Dr. Salah Salah, neurologist and brain surgeon.

The minister paid tribute to these specialists who, he said, are

taking an exemplary step and offering their countrymen a great service.

Dr. Hamzeh said that this measure was taken as part of the ministry's drive to improve medical services and in view of the long and vast experience these specialists have in their fields. He was commenting on a statement published earlier in the press in which he said that the Health Ministry plans to enlist the help of private Jordanian specialists to promote medical services at its hospitals and health centres in Jordan.

Lawzi leads delegation to Egypt, praises ties

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi said here Saturday that His Majesty King Hussein's decision to restore Jordan's diplomatic relations with Egypt was in conformity with the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, and based on the concept of pan-Arab solidarity and bolstering joint Arab action.

Mr. Lawzi was making a press statement shortly before he flew to Egypt on an official visit at the head of a delegation from the Upper House of Parliament.

He said that Jordan's relations with Egypt are strong, thanks to the endeavours of King Hussein and President Hosni Mubarak. "Egypt must acquire a pro-

minent position within the Arab community and also in any joint Arab action at all regional and international levels in all economic, scientific and military domains," Mr. Lawzi said.

During the week-long visit Mr. Lawzi is expected to meet with the speaker of the Egyptian People's Council, Dr. Rifaat Mahjoub, and

other officials and parliament members.

The delegation includes Hikmat Al Masri, Walid Salah, Zouqan Hindawi, Jumaa Hammad, Nayef Al Khreisheh, Hayel Al Surur and Hani Kheir.

The delegation were seen off by House members and Egypt's Ambassador to Jordan Eihab Wahbeh.

Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb is also expected to arrive in Cairo Sunday on a visit to Egypt, according to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

The agency said that Lt.-Gen. Abu Taleb will lead a military delegation in response to an invitation by Egyptian Army Chief of Staff Ibrahim Arrabi.

Festivities planned for Arbor Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Arbor Day will be celebrated throughout Jordan on January 15 and the main celebration will be held under Royal patronage at Al Taneih Royal Racing Club between Amman and the Queen Alia International Airport, according to an official announcement by the Department of Press and Publications.

Other Arbor Day festivities will be held in Mastaba, near Jerash, and a development site in the Zarqa River basin, according to Ministry of Agriculture Range and Afforestation Department Director Ghalib Abu Arrabi.

He said that actually the celebrations will last until the beginning of March to allow for the planting of nearly 7.5 million saplings produced by the ministry's nurseries around the country, of these, 3.5 million will be planted by the ministry's various teams and the rest will be distributed to private organisations and schools free of charge to be planted in their grounds and areas, Mr. Arrabi added. "My department will plant fruit and forest trees over a 25,000 dunum area in the current season," he said.

Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakbqan will hold a meeting Saturday to discuss arrangements for the celebrations around the country. The meeting will be attended by Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi and directors of agriculture departments in Jordan.

In preparation for the celebrations, Mr. Dakbqan has issued a circular urging directors of agricultural departments in all governorates to plant trees alongside main roads and the approaches to cities during this season. He also called on these departments to cooperate with municipalities in organising campaigns for planting trees on the largest possible areas of land, and to assign plots of lands for parks and public gardens. The minister said agriculture departments should cooperate with the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) in organising the watering of trees and irrigation operations in their regions, and to make ample preparations for Arbor Day celebrations in cooperation with provincial governors.

Meanwhile, reports from different governorates indicate that preparations are well underway for celebrating Arbor Day on January 15. A meeting in Mafraq resulted in a decision to hold the main celebration in the premises of the government hospital and that boys scouts, girl guides, and representatives of various organisations and youth clubs will take part in the tree planting celebrations.

According to Mafraq Governor Fayez Al Abbadi, who presided over the meeting, the Department of Education in Mafraq will organise an awareness campaign to urge the public to plant trees and to protect forests.

In Salt, it was announced that the main tree-planting celebration will be held on January 27 during which fruit and forest trees will be planted in different regions, particularly in the main ground at Mudari. The Department of Agriculture in Balqa region has prepared 2000 dunums of land to be planted with trees. These are located at Mudari, Wadi Shueib, Rumman and Tallous.

In Karak in the south and Ajloun in the north of the country similar celebrations will be held to mark the occasion. According to the Department of Agriculture in Karak nearly 12,000 tree saplings will be planted during the celebrations.

Municipal and Rural Affairs Ministry unveils final draft 5-year budget plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment has prepared its five year plan, and plans to spend JD 92.482 million on different public service projects, in addition to JD 35.63 million to be spent on development schemes between 1986-1990, according to an official announcement here Saturday.

The announcement was made by Mr. Asem Ghoshe, director of services and engineering works, who heads a team that prepared the ministry's draft five year plan. Mr. Ghoshe said that JD 33.85 million will be spent on building

streets and roads, JD 18.591 on purchasing land for projects, JD 15.381 on public utilities and other buildings, JD 7.02 million on building road shoulders and pavements, JD 6.353 million on purchasing machinery and equipment, JD 5.276 million on building public gardens, JD 3.07 million on municipal building and JD 2.941 million on other unspecified projects.

The development schemes in the plan include building market places, shopping centres, handicraft districts, government building complexes and car parks, Mr. Ghoshe pointed out.

At the outset of the meeting, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Humud said that the five-year plan is essentially based on the concept of public participation in building cities and villages and the role of municipalities in promoting public services and acting as a decentralised authority for local government.

He said that local councils should make every possible effort for relying on their own revenues to finance public schemes in their respective regions. These revenues come from taxes, fees and contributions, the minister added.

RSCN works to protect nature

By Kerstin Wichmann Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) is an umbrella organisation dedicated to the protection of nature, natural resources, wildlife in the desert and marine life.

According to Maher Abu Jafar, the general director of the RSCN, the organisation's major task is to supply scientific support to legislative institutions.

In 1985, the RSCN was asked by the Ministry of Planning to contribute to the establishment of the environmental part of the forthcoming 1986-1990 national development plan, Mr. Abu Jafar told the Jordan Times. Since then, the RSCN has been directly involved in national conservation strategy to organise the future use of natural resources.

Finishing this study will take about three years and the RSCN has asked the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to contribute to the project technically and financially.

In addition to this theoretical work, the RSCN has also executive power to regulate hunting in the Kingdom. For that purpose Mr. Abu Jafar continued, Jordan was divided into six different hunting areas which are alternately open for hunting for limited periods of time during the year. In order to enforce public adherence to the restrictions, the well-equipped RSCN staff patrol the areas daily.

"During the last year we collected JD 135,000 as fines on prohibited hunting," Mr. Abu Jafar said. The RSCN is authorised by the government to arrest offenders and take them to the police.

Mr. Abu Jafar added that the Aqaba area is also under RSCN supervision. Two inspectors patrol the coast daily in order to keep it clean from pollution. Leaflets distributed to all ships at anchor prohibit the dumping of sewage and oils.

"Compared to other harbours of the world, Aqaba is a really clean one," Mr. Abu Jafar said. He said, however, that because of the non-existence of national environmental or wildlife legislation, there are "some gaps" in environmental protection. The RSCN draws its authority from Agricultural Act No. 20, concerning animal resources, but has no influence on industrial pollution, for example.

In order to protect endangered species from extinction the RSCN is busy with establishing wildlife reserves in Jordan. Mr. Abu Jafar mentioned that of the 12 proposed reserves two have been established so far. A third one, the Mujib Wildlife Reserve next to the Dead Sea, is in the process of construction.

In 1975 the Shaumari Wildlife Reserve was opened and, with the assistance of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Arabian Oryx World Herd Trustees, the Arabian Oryx was reintroduced to its natural habitat in Jordan in 1983. Today there is a total of 45 head (10 per cent of the world population of the oryx), demonstrating the success of the breeding programme. In addition, several species of gazelles, the wild ass and the ostrich are part of the breeding programme.

The second operating wildlife reserve is at the Azraq Oasis. An RSCN research paper asserts that "this unique wetland is a noted locality for migrating birds, including many of the African, Palearctic species, which pass through in spring and summer. Some

species winter at the oasis and some breed there. It was recognised in 1977 as an international station for migratory waterfowl. About 311 species of birds, over half of them migratory, have been recorded at this wetland. Furthermore it is very rich in both flora and fauna."

This oasis is currently in danger, as Mr. Abu Jafar notes: "If the Jordan Water Authority goes on pumping drinking water for the Amman area to the extent that it is now, we will lose the oasis for sure." Mr. Abu Jafar added that due to the sinking of the groundwater level migratory birds are on the decrease.

The RSCN promotes a "wise," responsible use of water, including raising the consciousness of the consumers. "Water is a rare element in Jordan and not available in unlimited amounts."

In order to create more public awareness concerning environmental problems, the RSCN established a Public Awareness and Information Division six months ago.

"We intend to start from zero," Mr. Abu Jafar said, "for that reason we are cooperating with the Ministry of Education on issuing a booklet about Jordanian wildlife and plants in schools. We hope that in 10 or 15 years the Jordanian population will be more aware of the necessity for the protection of nature."

The RSCN also ordered a mobile education unit from the WWF and plans to produce illustrative educational material like posters and charts.

A further project is the erection of an information centre at the Shaumari Wildlife Reserve. The visitor will be able to gain information about the RSCN and the wildlife reserves while attending the centre.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New bus fares announced

AMMAN (Petra) — The bus fare for a passenger travelling between Irbid and Amman has been lowered from 800 fils to 700 fils on modern air-conditioned Pullman buses, while the ordinary bus fare remains 400 fils, according to a new tariff issued by Minister of Transport Bahi Obeidi. A statement issued Saturday also said that air-conditioned Pullman buses operating along the Jerash-Amman road should charge 300 fils per trip while the fare on the ordinary buses will be 230 fils.

IDB grants loans worth JD 1,249,000

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) has granted 13 loans totalling JD 1,249,000 to local industries that are projected to create 127 new jobs and should make a contribution of JD 262,800 to national income. An IDB statement said that the new loans have raised the total number of loans granted to Jordanian industries in the past year to 129, estimated at a total of JD 7,482,000.

Poultry sector company discussed

AMMAN (Petra) — During a meeting held Saturday owners of a number of poultry farms in Jordan discussed the establishment of a general shareholding company to support the poultry sector in Jordan. The farmers also discussed the roles and goals of the proposed company, which will not affect the existing cooperative society for the production and marketing of eggs.

Iraqi exhibition to open Wednesday

AMMAN (Petra) — An Iraqi popular market will be opened here Wednesday under Royal patronage at the Professional Associations Complex on the occasion of Iraq's celebration of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Iraqi Army. On display at the three-day market are various products of Iraqi industries. The exhibition was organised by the Iraqi community in Amman, with the proceeds going to the families of martyrs.

Arabs warn U.S. and Israel against attacking Libya

(Continued from page 1)

best means of eliminating all manifestations of violence and terrorism was "to attack the roots of the evil" by respecting the legitimacy of all U.N. resolutions.

In Cairo, Egyptian presidential adviser Osama Al Baz said Egypt opposed "any Israeli action against Arab country." Dr. Baz was talking to reporters after meeting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker (See page 2).

"We had no word from our American friends, from the U.S.

administration and we are sure that the people in Washington are not trigger-happy or looking for any military involvement," Dr. Baz added.

He reiterated Cairo's condemnation of terrorism but said retaliatory action could lead to a dangerous chain of reactions. He urged the international community to act within the context of legitimacy.

Morocco's conservative daily newspaper l'Opinion said U.S. President Reagan would "fall into a trap," if he ordered military reprisals against Libya.

Kuwait's Al Rai Al Aam newspaper and Syria's semi-official Al Thawra daily said any U.S. or Israeli attack against Libya would be regarded as aggression against the whole Arab World.

The United States now has forces in the Mediterranean that could launch a strike against Libya, but military officials feel any such action would be dangerous and difficult, defence department sources quoted by the AP said.

The U.S. navy has conducted what it called a routine deployment of a battle group into the

Mediterranean, the sources said. But President Reagan has said no decision to proceed with any type of military response to the attacks in Rome and Vienna, they said.

Speaking on condition they not be identified further, the defence department sources said top officials, including Defence Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, were asked to prepare for a possible "strategy meeting" at the White House on Saturday.

Asked about reports that options included air strikes by FA-18 jets from the aircraft carrier Coral

Sea or by U.S. air force F-111 jets based in Britain, one official said: "I would not quarrel with that."

The F-111 fighter-bombers could be refuelled in air or at a NATO base at Sigonella, Sicily.

On Friday, the U.S. carrier Coral Sea and her battle group ended a holiday port leave in Italy and steamed into the central Mediterranean in what navy officials termed a routine manoeuvre.

The U.S. defence department sources also confirmed that earlier this week that at least six EA-6B prowler radar-jamming aircraft were dispatched from their base in Washington state to the Sigonella air base in Sicily.

All in all the UDA suggests nine seats to represent the 11 refugee camps in the country.

Such a formula, the statement says, will "achieve a balance between the Jordanian national entity, which includes the two banks, and (a future) Palestinian national entity." The statement did not elaborate.

The statement carried the signatures of 30 Jordanian political personalities including former minister Jamal Al Shaer, who heads the UDA, former National Consultative Council (NCC) member Faisal Kanaana and others.

The association also suggested a number of election procedures to guarantee fair elections.

It proposed that the voting card should be issued by the Department of Civil Affairs, to set voting age at 18 and to allow illiterate voters select a member of the committee which supervises the elections to help in the balloting process.

Political activists seek changes in draft

(Continued from page 1)

Gaza Strip that should be considered in the new electoral law: — First, the population in the West Bank has gone down to three quarters of a million while the population of the East Bank — Jordanians and Palestinians including refugees — has increased to around three million.

— Second, the Palestinian question has gained new Arab and international dimensions as a result of the role that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has come to play, the continuation of the Israeli occupation and the emergence of the issue of establishing a Palestinian entity. At the same time the constitutional ties which bound the East Bank and the West Bank remained. The constitutional bonds gained more importance after the restoration

of Parliament in 1984.

— Third, the absence of a national solution for the Palestinian question based on a unified Arab strategy and the lack of interest on the part of international powers in endorsing a just basis for a solution for the Palestinian question.

Consequently, the statement said, the new electoral law should maintain a balance in Jordanian-Palestinian relations by achieving an equal, or at least close to equal, representation for Jordanians and Palestinians in the executive and the legislative branches.

Such a formula, the statement said, would provide security since it would block Israeli schemes of a substitute homeland for the Palestinians in Jordan and would allow a wider political participation for the Palestinians and Jordanians alike.

The issue of Palestinian rep-

resentation in Jordanian institutions is perhaps the thorniest subject of the ongoing debate among Jordanian political personalities on the new electoral law. Some politicians express fears that if Palestinians in the East Bank are allowed to nominate themselves for parliamentary elections the vote will be divided along Jordanian-Palestinian lines and would consequently create divisions between the two peoples.

The statement of the UDA refutes these arguments, pointing out that preventing the Palestinians from running for elections will alienate them politically and will deprive them from directly electing their representatives, particularly that West Bank deputies are elected by the Lower House since elections cannot be held in the West Bank due to the Israeli occupation.

For example the five refugee camps in the governorate of Amman could be represented by four deputies out of the 32 seats for the Amman area.

ARABIC PRESS_EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Reminders of reality

Al Dustour: Shameful U.S. actions

It is clear that the Zionists aim at forcing the Arab countries to hold direct talks with the Zionist state, accepting its terms and conditions for a settlement which would be ignominious to the Arabs and favouring the Zionist dreams in Palestine.

A review of 1985 and outlook for 1986

million on account of late payments from the United Arab Emirates. The United States committed a moderate amount

The budget of 1986 gives a sketch of how the Jordanian economy will fare in this new

lion. The deficit of course would be much more if the budgetary limits were not observed and fully adhered to.

rovement in the economics of large scale projects especially potash, upgrading agriculture production and water res-

that foreign aid has been used wisely and efficiently to the full satisfaction of the friendly governments and international and regional financial institutions.

Zia's lifting of martial law puts civilians on the spot

Asked about this last week, Z
grinned and said: "Time will tell."

TERS

Indonesia raises spectre of Communist threat

two years after the coup, reopened trade ties this year. Diplomatic relations remain frozen.

Chilean army uncomfortable with Argentine trials

But doubts remain about how far Pinochet is willing to go.

LETTERS

Restraints are needed

policy and if this is to remain, then the only other way is to have a more realistic value of the dinar. If local industries take improper advantage of this, there is always the tax factor which can remedy

whatever restraint and sacrifice is necessary to enable that to happen, should be considered.

I wonder if you would care to initiate a dialogue on this subject.

A. Rajagopalan
Attman

Former Australian ambassador looks back at three years in Jordan with pleasure

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Richard Gates, the first Australian ambassador to Jordan, left back home last month after three years of service in which he contributed to laying down the foundations of strong and close bilateral relations in all fields between the two countries.

In an interview with the Jordan Times prior to his departure Mr. Gates said that relations between Jordan and Australia are expected to grow in importance since "Australia is seriously considering Jordan as an alternate source of phosphate."

Nauru, a tiny little island in the Pacific, has so far been Australia's source of phosphate but "phosphate is expected to disappear from Nauru within ten years and Jordan could be important as an alternative source," Mr. Gates said.

Over his past three years of Australian diplomatic representation in Jordan, bilateral cooperation and trade exchange have considerably increased, particularly in the fields of agriculture and archaeology. Australia is involved in "a small aid programme for the development of dry land and maintains good relations with Jordan's Cooperative Organisation while Jordan imports wheat and coal from Australia. Jordanian officials from the Ministry of Trade were invited to Australia recently to explore the possibilities of the trade exchange and cooperation," Mr. Gates noted. "I was also pleased to see that Aus-



Richard Gates

tralian archaeologists are involved in archaeological excavations in different sites in Jordan," he added.

Australia's interest in Jordan, however, is not only limited to trade and archaeology, but the political situation in the Middle East is also of great interest to the Australian government, which supports a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian question.

"We support a peaceful settlement along the lines of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which recognise the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, provided the right of Israel to secure borders is also recognised and agreed upon," Mr. Gates explained. "We have noted with interest the steps that have been taken this year including His Majesty King Hussein's speech to the U.N. General Assembly on

Sept. 25," Mr. Gates said.

Mr. Gates, 53, a veteran diplomat who has already spent 29 years in the diplomatic service of his country, has represented Australia in seven countries spread among four continents, including Korea, Israel, Nauru, Italy, Burma and Jordan.

His first post was as an alternate Australian representative to the United Nations Commission for the Reunification and Rehabilitation of Korea where he spent two years.

In 1963 Mr. Gates was posted to Tel Aviv where he served as first secretary and later as charge d'affaires at the Australian embassy there. "It was my first time in the Middle East, so, I made sure to visit the different countries of the area," he said.

During his years in Tel Aviv Mr. Gates used to visit Jordan often. "I remember that my first impression was that Jordan was well governed," Mr. Gates said. "I noticed that, even more, when I later went to Africa where the rule of government did not extend that far," he added.

In 1965 Mr. Gates was posted to Kenya to open the first Australian diplomatic mission in Nairobi.

In 1970, Mr. Gates was appointed as the Australian commissioner to the Republic of Nauru which until 1968 was an Australian colony. He has special memories of the two by three miles island. "It was like living on a ship for two years," he recalled. "It was very interesting."

Despite the smallness of the island, it has been of extreme importance to Australia since "for more than 60 years it has been the main supplier of phosphate for us," Mr. Gates said.

In 1972, Mr. Gates was posted to Rome where he served as a counsellor. "Rome was a very interesting but difficult city," he said. He remembers that it was "a very important period in Italy, since, during those years (1974-1977) it looked like the Communist Party would get into government and all diplomats were following events with great interest."

After three years in Rome, Mr. Gates was appointed in the Pacific Affairs department in Canberra until 1980 when he was designated as ambassador to Burma. "Burma is a very important country for Australia in our part of the world," he said. The ambassador explained that Australia has its biggest foreign aid programme in Burma.

"The country has noticeably changed and developed in all fields particularly in the media and communication," he said. "But roads are still a problem in Jordan." "In general, Jordan is a very easy country for diplomats to work compared to other countries in the world. People and officials are very cooperative," he said.

Mr. Gates said that he was taking a two month leave since he has not been appointed to another area yet. "But I have told the department that I would prefer to spend some time in Canberra," he concluded.



A CHANGE OF SCENE: West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl (centre) and Defence Minister Manfred Wörner (right) and men of the 3rd Panzer Division about to make a toast on the

occasion of the recent celebrations marking the 30th anniversary of the Bundeswehr, the armed forces of West Germany (DaD photo)

Afghans find refuge in Iran, but numbers rising fast

By Hugh Pope

Reuter

SABZEVAR, Iran — Six years after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, neighbouring Iran is host to at least 1.8 million Afghan refugees and officials say up to 2,000 more arrive each day.

From Sabzevar, a windswept town between the Turkmenistan steppe and the central Iranian desert, newly-registered Afghans are taken to one of eight reception and quarantine camps.

There, wrapped in turbans, sheepskin capes and blankets, they receive food, enjoy hot water baths and are given a concrete cabin or a place to pitch their tent.

Above all, they get a chance to recover from what for some has been a dangerous journey of up to four months.

Most stay for only one or two weeks. Iranian officials decide where they will live after being medically cleared. Some bring back malaria, tuberculosis and leprosy to a country where these diseases had been eradicated.

The refugees face travel restrictions but are issued with a card that allows them to work and gives them access to rationed food supplies and free schooling for their children.

"In my experience, the Iranians' treatment of the refugees is exemplary," says Angelo Rasanayagam, head of the Tehran office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

U.N. assistance started coming only in 1984: \$7.5 million that year and about \$10.5 million in 1985.

At Sabzevar, this has brought a water tanker truck and an ambulance. The buildings, mosque, bath houses, clinic, bakery and stores were all built from the four billion rial (\$44 million) budget of Iran's Council for Afghan Refugees (CAR).

CAR chairman Hassan Bashir told the UNHCR magazine "Refugees" recently that Iran's top priority was to integrate Afghans "with permanent solutions to their problems."

Afghans are the backbone of Iran's construction industry and factory owners say they also prefer them because they work harder than Iranians for less money. But with unemployment in Iran at 20 per cent, Afghans say they are no longer allowed to settle in Tehran, nearby Qom or the eastern city of Mashhad.

Bashir said he wants to channel new arrivals into farming and traditional Afghan skills, like handicrafts.

Rasanayagam said the U.N. hoped to help Iran with projects to set up whole new agricultural villages in south-east Iran.

Most Afghans coming to Iran speak Persian and are no strangers to the country. Sabzevar camp director Mohammad Bani Assadi said 40 per cent of new arrivals had been to Iran before and 60 per cent had relations already living here.

They are also all Muslims. U.N. officials estimate that, even before the Soviet intervention in December 1979, some 600,000 Afghans were working in Iran to send back money to their families — a practice which Afghans say they keep up through Afghan guerrilla groups, several of which have offices in Iran.

The Soviet newspaper Pravda said in March that Iran maintains military training camps for the guerrillas in eastern Iran, but Iranian officials play down any military involvement.

"We give humanitarian assistance," Ali Khalkhali, CAR's deputy chief in the northeast Khorasan province, told Reuters. He said two or three wounded guerrillas were treated at the government's expense every week. Afghans in Iran do not, how-

ever, have a trouble-free image. Following a crime wave in the central Iranian city of Yazd, they are under an eight p.m. to five a.m. curfew. They are also often arrested for involvement in Iran's narcotics trade, and some Iranians speak with growing dispassion of the Afghans.

"There's just too many of them," said a taxi driver in Mashhad, where the U.N. estimates that registered Afghan refugees alone make up a quarter of the population of 1.2 million.

Afghans say it takes more than two weeks to get permission to travel from one town to another and that their movements are checked. But many say they regularly return to Afghanistan.

Many of the refugees say they are fighters just back in Iran for a break or to take their families to a safe place before returning to their fighting groups.

"I took my wife out of Herat when our house was destroyed by rockets fired by a helicopter. I will take her to my parents in Mashhad. Then I will go back to my group," said a new arrival in Sabzevar. Khalil Ahmadi, 25.

The Afghans cling fiercely to their traditions. "Sabzevar camp director Bani Assadi said that barbed wire separating the bachelors' tents from those of the family areas was primarily there at the refugees' request.

In another enclosure, tribal Afghans used their own tents. Women could be seen using old sheep-shaped water skins in preference to new plastic containers supplied by Iran.

Sultan Ali, 35, repeated other refugees' satisfaction with their treatment at Sabzevar, 560 km east of Tehran, and in Iran in general.

"I'm one hundred per cent happy. Our Iranian brothers are serving us night and day. They consider it their Islamic duty," he said.

Teachers fight to reclaim place in British society

By Nicholas Phythian

Reuter

LONDON — Britain's school teachers, angry at seeing their profession slip down the job pecking order, are fighting an increasingly bitter classroom battle for higher pay.

After 10 months of selective strikes and working by the rule book, they have drawn up plans to take a campaign of disruption in the country's state schools into a second year.

"We are not prepared any longer to tolerate a situation whereby, as our workload increases and our job becomes more stressful, our pay plunges lower and lower by comparison with other professions," Fred Jarvis, head of the biggest union, the National Union of Teachers (NUT), told a protest rally.

The teachers, whose profession is traditionally ranked with the law, medicine or the church in British society, say they now earn less than policemen and some colleagues are having to supplement their income with welfare payments or second jobs.

The campaign of selective strikes, which began in February, has hit schools all over Britain, disrupting preparation for exams as well as sport and other out-of-school activities.

But Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government, pledged to curb public

spending, says there is no more money and ministers have accused the teachers of disregarding the welfare of Britain's 9.4 million school children in pursuit of personal gain.

But leaders of Britain's 463,000 teachers say government policy towards education has left them no alternative.

They say teachers are underpaid and undervalued and that their basic salary — from 5,442 sterling (\$7,700) at the bottom to 22,900 (\$32,750) for headmasters — is so low that high-calibre potential recruits go elsewhere.

Applications to train for secondary school teaching are a quarter down this year and teachers warn of a serious shortage in mathematics and physics.

The campaign for pay began in England and Wales, where local authorities are the employers, with demands for 12.4 per cent increases. The main unions have spoken of demands for 1986 as high as 35 per cent.

The NUT will ask members in January to reaffirm the campaign of strikes and disruptions and wants all teachers to strike for half a day a month, at least until March.

Scottish teachers, employed by an arm of central government, want an independent pay review and have also been striking.

In a bid to break the deadlock, Education Secretary Sir Keith Joseph has offered a 1.25 billion

sterling (\$1.79 billion) package over four years, but with strings attached.

One condition is that teachers accept annual assessment. The other is that they undertake voluntary duties such as deputising for sick colleagues as part of their contractual duties.

Educational standards have been a major theme of debate in Britain in recent years. Employers complain that some youngsters are leaving school unable to read, write or add up properly.

The government's offer is in part a response to this, by offering greater financial incentives for good teachers and a mechanism to weed out poor ones.

But the NUT refuses to link pay and conditions of work. Real pay has dropped a third since 1974 while the demands of modern society have made the job harder, teachers say.

Increasing violence in Britain's schools, particularly in inner cities, has led to more attacks on teachers.

British teachers, unlike colleagues in some other countries, are responsible for discipline and much administration.

Extra duties, for which they are not paid, include supervision of breaks and school meals, running sports and cultural clubs after school and meeting parents.

Teachers have mounted selective strikes lasting up to three days and a ban on voluntary duties

in pursuit of their claim.

The local authorities, controlled by the opposition Labour Party, have offered a five per cent rise and informal talks have pushed this up to a notional 7.5 per cent, but the employers say they can offer no more without extra government cash.

Thatcher and Joseph have steadfastly refused. They and their supporters have accused teachers of harming their pupils' chances in life.

Thatcher herself recently proposed that local authorities lock striking teachers out of schools, although both the employers and unions have voiced doubts about the legality of such action and described the suggestion as badly timed.

Talks between the two sides had just resumed after three months and a cabinet meeting called to look for solutions to the dispute decided the government should do nothing while negotiations were in progress.

Thatcher has had a chequered relationship with Britain's educational establishment.

In the 1970s, she was dubbed "Thatcher the milk snatcher" when as education minister she stopped free school milk.

In January, the academics of Oxford University, where she studied chemistry, refused her an honorary doctorate, citing her government's cuts in education spending as the reason.

Egypt grapples with politics of bread

By Hamza Hendawi

Reuter

CAIRO — Bread is a hot political commodity in Egypt, where people judge their leaders by its quality and where price rises can spark riots.

This poses problems for a government trying to raise prices and stop waste, and under foreign pressure to end subsidies inherited from the socialist era of the 1960s.

Bread has always been more than just a staple to Egyptians. Back in Pharaonic times, they insisted on having loaves buried with them. They call bread "eish" (life).

Egypt, the world's biggest flour importer and a lucrative wheat market, spends more than \$1 billion a year to make cheap bread available for the poor and hungry.

Four of every five loaves are baked from imported wheat, mostly American, and producing a loaf costs four times the street price of three U.S. cents or less.

The government is under foreign pressure, especially from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the United States, its main aid donor, to end subsidies.

At the same time, the United States, Australia and the European Community (EC) are competing for flour and wheat sales to Egypt, which imports a total of 6.6 million tonnes a year and has a fast-growing population of 49 million.

A flat, round loaf of unleavened bread costs one or two piasters (1.5 or three U.S. cents), and Cairo's 12 million people waste 40 per cent of what they buy. Western economists here say it is so cheap that farmers feed it to their cattle and poultry.

Nearly half the \$2.4 billion to be spent on subsidised basic commodities this fiscal year from October will go on bread.

Any attempt to cut subsidies and raise prices is resisted. The government had to back down on a plan to put up prices that sparked riots in 1977.

Since then, the government has only tinkered with the problem by trying to wean Egyptians on to a "new, improved" loaf at double the price.

Foreign diplomats and bankers believe the price, still among the world's lowest, has to go up. Rising flour and wheat imports — forecast by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at eight million tonnes by 1990 — will pose financial strains.

At the same time, hard currency earnings from remittances by expatriate workers, oil, tourism and Suez Canal tolls are either falling or stagnant.

Western experts say Egypt cannot count on repeating recent bargain wheat and flour deals.

In interviews with Reuters, they said the United States sold Egypt 675,000 tonnes of flour and wheat at below-market prices in September to help recapture markets lost to the European Community.

Australia has pledged two million tonnes of wheat for 1986 at lower prices than originally quoted, they said.

The experts say the United States is offering another 500,000 tonnes of wheat and 425,000 tonnes of flour to Egypt for 1986 delivery at tender dates still to be fixed.

Agriculture Minister Yousef Wali says Egypt, whose own wheat output is some 2.5 million tonnes a year, will continue to rely heavily on imports until the year 2000.

Teaching Africans what they already know

The assumption that Africans need to be taught by foreign experts how to conserve their environment is incorrect, says a leading Zambian anthropologist. In fact a tradition of living in harmony with nature is deeply ingrained in African culture. Donatus de Silva is an assistant director at Earthscan, and is in charge of Earthscan's Focal Country Programme.

LUSAKA, Zambia — Do Africans need outside "experts" to teach them conservation? A leading Zambian anthropologist says no, and argues that environmental programmes would be more successful if they drew upon the deeply ingrained African tradition of living in harmony with nature.

Wildlife experts from international organisations working in Africa often talk about environmental concerns as though they are new issues to the people of the continent. This common misconception, according to Dr. Francis Musonda, Head of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Livingstone museum, is contradicted by the historical facts.

Wildlife conservation in Zambia dates back to several hundred years before the arrival of Europeans on the continent. Musonda's research has revealed that most African societies discouraged the wanton killing of animals and destruction of plants.

For instance, among the Gwembe Tonga tribe in Zambia's Mpika District, care is taken not to harm the young animals during hunting expeditions. Hunters dig large pits and set up traps designed to catch big animals, allowing young and small-sized ones to escape. Whenever a young animal falls into the pit or gets entangled in the net, hunters release it.

Another conservation measure widespread in traditional societies discourages the consumption of small fish. The size of fishing nets and baskets is regulated to allow small fish to pass through. Bre-

eding areas are avoided during fishing expeditions.

But perhaps the most effective conservation practice among African societies, Musonda has discovered, is the observation of wildlife taboos. Bans on the hunting and eating of certain animals are effective in a number of societies.

In Zambia's Biza Valley a local tradition prohibits people from eating hippo meat. The Lamba-speaking people in the Copperbelt Province maintain a number of taboos relating to the hunting of elephants. Elephant hunting, for example, would be halted if the party encountered two elephants fighting each other. This was regarded as a sign that a woman back in the village had struck a child in anger. A whole herd lying down indicated a death back in the village, and this also meant that hunting had to stop.

Under the traditional "chitemene" system of shifting cultivation, the soil too was subject to conservation measures. Musonda believes that colonialists and African experts trained in Western universities are too quick to decry chitemene, which is practised throughout central and northern Zambia.

But the African peasant is keenly aware of the dangers of over-cultivating tropical soil, which loses its nutrients quicker than soils in the temperate zone. Thus, traditional farmers developed shifting cultivation, by means of which the vegetation in an area is burned to fertilize the soil, which is then planted, harvested, and left to lie fallow for a number of years until it has regenerated itself.

"Although this method of agriculture cannot be continued now because of growing population pressures, colonial administrators never appreciated the concern for soil conservation among African peasants," Musonda has found.

"Furthermore," he points out, "many African societies have a deep awareness of the importance of wild plants and species, particularly for medicinal purposes."

Northern and African medical experts are only just beginning to discover the vast amount of knowledge among "medicine men."

The accumulated agricultural wisdom of many societies shows itself in the choice of crops. People living in the Gwembe Valley encourage the growth of local drought-resistant species such as bull-rush millet. Under harsh conditions the millet has greater

chance of survival than maize, which is widely propagated by agricultural experts and preferred by consumers in the cities.

Traditional knowledge about the uses of wild plants and animals was, until recently, transmitted orally from generation to generation. Musonda warns that unless African governments make a determined effort soon to document such information, much of it will disappear by the end of this century. Partly responsible will be the engrained colonial attitude that the average African is ignorant of the necessity for, and methods of, environmental protection.

This attitude was evidenced by the way in which colonial administrators, to conserve wildlife, set up national parks and game reserves. Continued by African governments and supervised by western-trained game wardens, the reserves were designed to protect the animals from Africans.

Today, they are run mainly for the benefit of tourists — who hunt animals purely for recreation — and local tour companies.

Pointing out that such attitudes are totally alien to African culture, Musonda has called for drastic changes in wildlife conservation activities. Education programmes should be redesigned to incorporate traditional wildlife concepts. Local people living around national parks and game reserves need to be involved in the management of these areas, an action which may result in a significant reduction in poaching — Earthscan feature.



New Soviet mission revives idea of man on Mars

By Tony Barber

Reuter

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union is preparing for its first unmanned mission to Mars since the early 1970s, raising the possibility that the dream of landing men on the red planet may come one step closer.

Working with scientists from a group of Western and Eastern European countries, the Soviets are planning to launch two laser-equipped spacecraft towards Mars and one of its moons, Phobos, in the middle of 1988.

Nedelya, weekly supplement to the government newspaper Izvestia, said the crafts would first amass data on conditions on Mars and then switch into a "hedge-hopping" flight over Phobos, flying no more than 30 to 70 metres above the moon's surface.

It said scientists were studying the possibility of landing probes on Phobos which could transmit information directly from the moon's surface. A Soviet craft made the first soft-landing on Mars in 1971 but no probes have landed on its two moons.

During the mission, the first Soviet flight to Mars since 1973, the craft will also fire laser and ion beams at Phobos to vaporize substances on its surface for analysis.

Although the mission is billed as part of a long-standing programme of unmanned exploration, the revived Soviet interest in Mars has caused some space experts in the West to wonder whether the Phobos flight is a first move in a long-term plan for a manned mission to the planet.

Mars is the only body in space marked for possible exploration in the near future. Venus is too hot and Earth's satellite, the Moon, has no air or water.

Interest in a manned flight to Mars has been raised by increasing evidence that it has large amounts of water below its surface.

This evidence, chiefly from some 20,000 pictures taken by two U.S. Viking spacecraft orbiting Mars, has led some U.S. scientists to suggest that, if the water proves accessible, a manned flight to Mars could be feasible before the end of the century.

A Soviet space official, Oleg Gazenko, told reporters in October the Soviet Union had no immediate plans for a manned flight to Mars. "This is a very costly enterprise," he added.

But the idea still surfaces periodically in the official Soviet Press, and one former cosmonaut, Konstantin Feoktistov, said in November last year that, if necessary, the Soviet Union could send a manned mission to the planet within 10 years.

The official Soviet line is that a decision to send men to Mars would be taken only if there was a certainty of making major scientific breakthroughs on the trip, such as the discovery of organic life.

The trail-blazing for that kind of discovery, Western experts said, would be made by the type of unmanned craft which the Soviet Union is sending up in 1988.

One Western embassy specialist in Moscow noted that, unlike the United States, which has sent men to the moon, the Soviet Union has had no experience of sending spacemen out of the earth's orbit.

"The question is, do the Soviets have the ability to mount a manned mission to Mars?" he asked. "It is a long, long journey, an incredible undertaking. It could take years of an astronaut's life, there and back."

Three Soviet cosmonauts, Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovoyev and Oleg Atkov, set an endurance record by spending 238 days on the orbiting Salyut-7 space station last year.

Experts said their mission could have served a dual purpose — to bring the Soviet Union closer to its declared goal of creating a permanently manned space station, and to test the capacity of cosmonauts for even longer interplanetary flights.

"I don't think that the two are mutually exclusive," one Western expert said.

Quite apart from the enormous cost, considerable problems stand in the way of a mission to Mars.

Spacemen would have to take unprecedented amounts of food and supplies with them and would probably have to find some way to create fuel from the Martian atmosphere for their vehicles.

An embassy specialist said physical problems, including muscle atrophy, weakening of the heart and loss of bone calcium, would present a tough challenge.

Nicholas stars, hitting hat-trick in Arsenal win against Grimsby

LONDON (R) — Former European champions Liverpool put their indifferent league form behind them Saturday, opening their English Football Association (F.A.) Cup campaign with a 5-0 mauling of Norwich City.

Norwich, leaders of the second division, were expected to give Liverpool a good run for their money in the third round tie at Anfield. But Liverpool, without a win in their last five games, were never stretched after Kevin MacDonald had shot them ahead in the 24th minute.

Arsenal's Scottish international Charlie Nicholas was the individual star on a day when nine ties, including cup holders Manchester United's home clash with Rochdale was postponed because of frost.

He hit a hat-trick in the thrilling 4-3 away win over second division Grimsby.

Newcastle and Leicester, two first division sides with a long history of success in the F.A. Cup, fell at the first hurdle — beaten by opposition from lower divisions.

Former England captain Gerry Francis played a key role in third division Bristol Rovers' emphatic

3-1 win over Leicester, who have won the cup four times, and second division Brighton, losing finalists in 1983, won 2-0 at Newcastle.

Brighton never looked back after Eric Young had given them the lead after only 50 seconds.

Aston Villa, record seven times winners of the competition, were saved from a similar fate at Portsmouth by an 89th minute goal by Paul Birch which tied the score at 2-2.

First division Ipswich's bid to set an all-time record for successive triumphs at this stage of the cup was checked by second division Bradford.

Ipswich, who last lost in the third round in the 1969-70 season, scrambled a 4-4 draw at home after trailing three times.

While the lower divisions generally fared well in the round which traditionally throws up

major surprises, there was no joy for the two part-time clubs in action Saturday.

Frickley Athletic were beaten 3-1 by Rotherham and Wycombe Wanderers' Cup run ended with a 2-0 defeat at York.

Arsenal, who were victims of a cup upset at York last season, looked set for another embarrassing day when Gary Lund gave Grimsby an early lead.

But the day belonged to Nicholas after Graham Rix had equalised. He hit his first hat-trick in English soccer inside 28 minutes.

Norwich's run of seven successive victories gave promise of a closely contested match at Anfield.

But Liverpool adapted much better on a pitch which was barely playable following a snowstorm. Once MacDonald had broken the deadlock, the goals flowed from Paul Walsh, Steve McMahon, Ronnie Whelan and John Wark.

Watford, who lost 2-0 to Everton in the 1984 cup final, hit fellow first division side Coventry with a three-goal burst in 10 minutes in the second half of their tie at Coventry.

Colin West, with two goals, and Kenny Jackett turned the match upside down between the 61st and 71st minutes after Brian Kildine had given Coventry the lead. Watford won 3-1.

In Scotland, Dundee United stepped up their challenge for the Premier League title with a 4-2 win over Celtic, another of the front runners.

A sizzling first half performance brought United four goals inside the opening half hour. Their marksmen were Davie Dodds (2), Eamonn Bannon, with a penalty, and Kevin Gallagher.

United are four points behind pace-setting Hearts, but have three games in hand.

Hearts trailed at Motherwell to a first half goal by John Reilly but they bounced back after the break to beat the bottom club 3-1 with goals by Ian Jardine, Neil Berry and John Robertson.

Aberdeen showed a rare glimpse of the form which earned them the championship last season as they beat St. Mirren 3-1 and Ally McCoist hit a hat-trick in Rangers' 5-0 trouncing of Dundee.

Chicago Bears prepare to rush Giants' Simms

NEW YORK (AP) — The Chicago Bears, who have humbled several quarterbacks this season, have set their sights on a fresh target.

Sunday's intended victim is pro bowl quarterback Phil Simms of the New York Giants, who face the Bears in a National Football Conference (NFC) playoff game.

"Simms sits in the pocket," said Bears linebacker Otis Wilson, whose hit knocked out Danny White during Chicago's 44-0 regular-season rout of Dallas. "He'll wait there."

"I don't think he's going to change," defensive lineman William "The Refrigerator" Perry said of the Giants quarterback. "He might have watched the Miami film and try to roll out, but I don't

know." The Bears-Giants NFC semifinal game in Chicago will be followed by an American Football Conference (AFC) semifinal pairing the New England Patriots at the Los Angeles Raiders.

The Bears haven't had an important game in weeks after rolling to the NFC central division title with a 15-1 record, the only loss coming at Miami. They spent most of the week in warm-weather Georgia, getting themselves into an angry mood.

"We got embarrassed last year in the NFC championship game," defensive tackle Steve McMichael said of the Bears' weak playoff loss to San Francisco. "That's all you can say about it, and it grates on your mind."

McMichael said the Bears are relaxed except in practice, where the workouts have been intense.

McMichael revealed an intense dislike for Giants offensive coordinator Ron Erhardt, who was head coach at New England during McMichael's brief stay there in 1980.

"He told me I wasn't good enough to play pro football," McMichael said on Erhardt.

Since Erhardt will be in the press box, will Michael be going after Simms instead?

"Yes, indeed," he said. "The Giants, meanwhile, believe their down-to-the-wire battle for a playoff spot will serve them well against the Bears."

"We know what war is," New York defensive end Leonard Mar-

shall said. "We've been fighting for our lives for the last five weeks."

"It's to our advantage," defensive lineman Casey Merrill said. "We're programmed for a fight."

Another possible target for the Bears could be running back Joe Morris, who set a team rushing record this season. Morris, however, suffered bruised ribs in last Sunday's playoff victory over the 49ers.

New England made the playoffs with an 11-5 record after starting the season 2-3, including a 35-20 loss to the Raiders.

Steve Grogan replaced Tony Eason at quarterback and sparked the 6-0 midseason rally by the Patriots. Eason got the job back when Grogan suffered a broken leg and has played well. Grogan may be reactivated for the game.

Kingston beats Marathon Oil

LONDON (R) — American basketball champion Marathon Oil from Chicago lost 117-98 to English champions Kingston in the semifinals of the World Invitation Club tournament Friday night.

Kingston's England international Martin Clark, formerly at Boston College in Massachusetts, scored 47 points as Marathon, seeded third, were swept aside after trailing 66-45 at break.

Kingston's American centre Dan Davis, from Carolina, notched 23 points and teammate Steve Bontrager scored 24. Both played for the Evangelist team athletes in action in the states before joining Kingston in 1984.

Kevin Sprewer, from Loyola University, was Marathon's leading player with 22 points.

Becker, Wilander to meet in final of Young Masters tennis tourney

WEST BERLIN (R) — Defending champion Boris Becker of West Germany and top-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden did what was fully expected Saturday, reaching the final of the \$150,000 Young Masters tennis tournament.

Becker, the second seed, had little trouble beating Spain's Emilio Sanchez 6-4, 6-4 but Wilander, on brilliant form all week, was surprisingly made to struggle by Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland before winning his semifinal 6-3, 7-6.

Sunday's best-of-five-set final gives Wilander a chance to avenge

a defeat by Becker last month in the Davis Cup final in Munich, his second successive loss to the Wimbledon champion.

"It won't be difficult to get motivated playing Boris," Wilander said. He serves well so it's difficult to break him.

"He goes for a lot of shots. It's always tough against him," he added.

Wilander had dropped just six games in three matches in this tournament for players under 22 and looked to be coasting again when he broke in the fourth game, took the first set 6-3 and opened a 5-2

lead in the second.

But Hlasek, whose aggressive style had been exposed by Wilander's astute passing shots and lobs, suddenly came to life. He saved match point at 5-2, another at 5-3 and two more at 5-4.

In the tiebreak it was Wilander's turn to fight back. He trailed five points to one, saved three set points from 6-3 down and then a fourth before clinching it 9-7.

"This sort of thing happens sometimes," Wilander said. "You miss a few easy points and the other guy starts to relax and play better. I don't think I managed to get my concentration back."

Sanchez, 20, played a lively, attacking game against the 19-year-old Becker, but Becker served so well he was never in any real danger.

TO LET

Two deluxe-furnished flats, 4th Circle, Jabal Amman
1- One bedroom, sitting room, salon, dining room.
2- Two bedrooms, sitting-dining room.
Both with colour T.V., phone and other facilities.

For more information call 642855



The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahilyah Girls School
Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

Tel. 638968

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

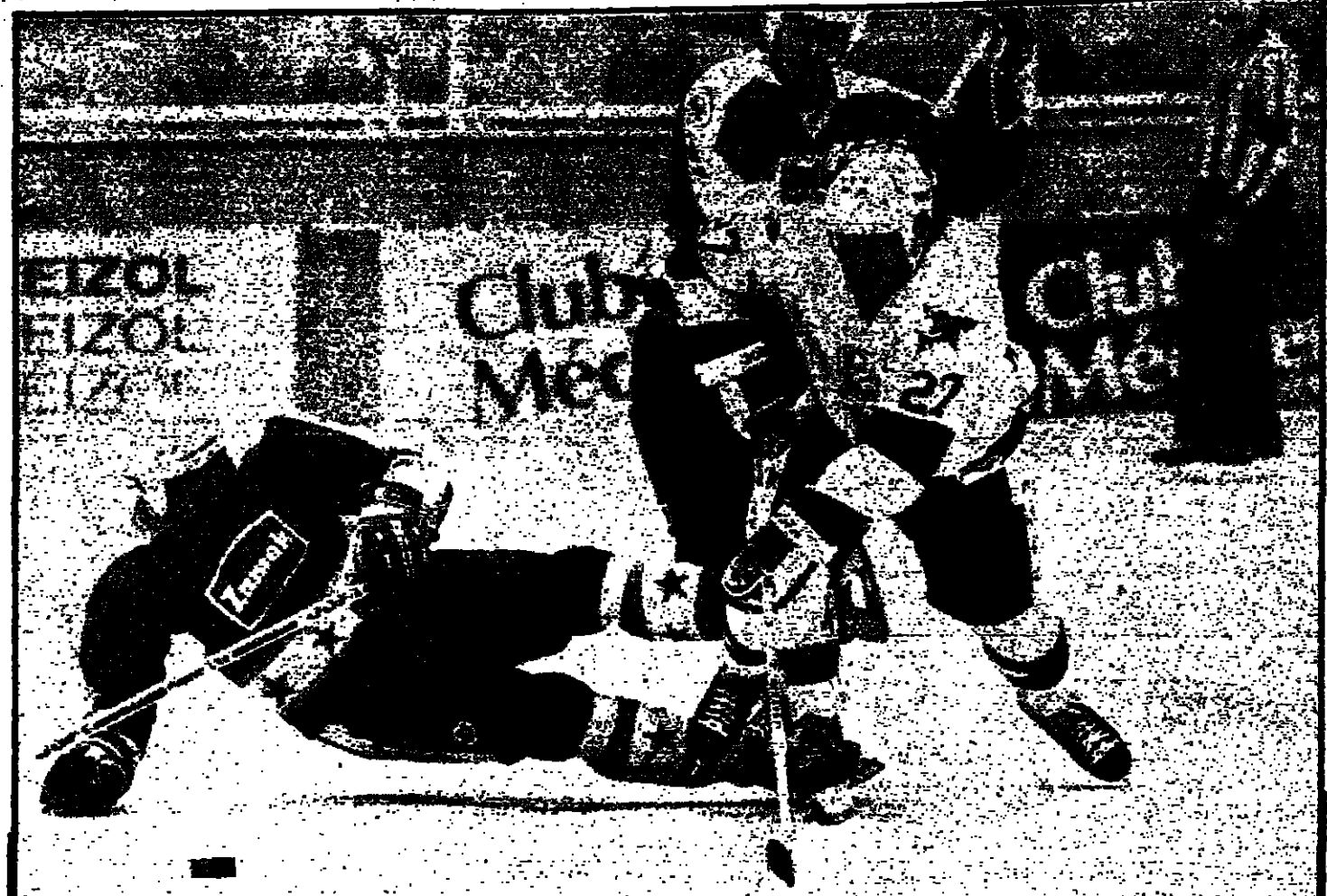
Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbeque for lunch and dinner FRIDAY

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight



The Cologne 'Sharks,' (in white), show aggressiveness and talent during their recent ice hockey match against Dusseldorf. The 'Sharks' are favoured to win the 1985/1986 championship to be battled during

this winter/spring season despite tough competition from other West German teams (INP/Sven Simon photo)

Los Angeles Lakers use reserves to win

NEW YORK (AP) — Kareem Abdul Jabbar was down and Earvin "Magic" Johnson was out, yet the Los Angeles Lakers still had enough in reserve to beat the Utah Jazz.

"They showed why they are the world's champions," Utah coach Frank Layden said after Friday night's 110-101 National Basketball Association (NBA) loss to the Lakers. "They ran into adversity. Magic was out. Kareem had five fouls and their back-up centre was ejected. They are a championship team and they did what they had to do."

While Jabbar wound up with 25 points and James Worthy 24, a big key to the Lakers' victory was the play of reserve Michael Cooper, who picked up the team after Johnson was ejected for two technical fouls and Jabbar was saddled with foul trouble.

In other NBA action, it was Cleveland 130, Los Angeles Clippers 111; Milwaukee 107, Washington 100; Atlanta 111, Detroit 101; Boston 129, New Jersey 117; Seattle 117, Denver 107 and Portland 133, Phoenix 104.

four of their last five home games.

Hawks 111, Pistons 101

Dominique Wilkins scored a game-high 32 points to lead Atlanta over Detroit. It was Detroit's sixth straight loss and 10th in the Pistons' last 11 games. Doc Rivers had 17 points and 13 assists for the Hawks.

Kelly Tripucka led the Pistons with 26 points, including 16 in the first quarter. Bill Laimbeer had 22 points and a game-high 17 rebounds, and Isiah Thomas added 21 points.

Cavaliers 130, Clippers 111

World B. Free scored 22 points and Mel Turpin added 20 as seven Cleveland players scored in double figures in an easy victory over the Los Angeles Clippers.

Bucks 107, Bullets 100

Terry Cummings scored a season-high 31 points as Milwaukee defeated Washington. The victory was the fifth straight for the Bucks, who at 10-9 are one of five NBA teams with a winning road record.

Cliff Robinson scored 26 points to lead the Bullets, who have lost

ured Danny Ainge, scored a season-high 17 points in helping Boston improve its home record to 14-1.

Albert King and Mike Gminski led the Nets with 20 points, one more than Buck Williams.

Supersonics 117, Nuggets 107

Seattle center Jack Sikma scored a season-high 32 points and pulled down 14 rebounds as the Supersonics charged back from a first-half deficit to beat Denver.

Trail Blazers 133, Suns 104

Kiki Vandeweghe scored 30 points and Clyde Drexler had 18 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists to lead Portland over Phoenix. Portland shot 62 per cent from the floor compared with the Suns' 52 per cent.

Celtics 129, Nets 117

Larry Bird scored 29 points, Dennis Johnson 24 and Kevin McHale 23 as Boston rolled to its fourth consecutive victory. Veteran guard Jerry Sichting, given a rare start as a replacement for injured

Finland to mark ski jumping centenary with new assurances of mastery, talent

HELSINKI (R) — Finland, where ski jumping this year celebrates its centenary, is sure to mark the occasion with another glorious episode in its mastery of the sport.

A new crop of brilliant youngsters has begun to emerge to back up the dominance of world champion Matti Nykanen, who is now keen to recover his reputation after temporarily blotting his copybook last month.

Foremost among the new wave is Pertti Saorsa, 18, widely regarded as Finland's second-ranked jumper after Nykanen.

He took full advantage of his opportunity when Nykanen, 22, was dropped from the Finnish squad following a poor performance and controversy surrounding his behaviour on tour in Canada and the United States.

Nykanen was sent home under a cloud after charges from his coach that he had disturbed his teammates and had troubles with his drinking habits.

Saorsa, an outstanding all-round athlete, proved his quality by beating the world's best at Oberstdorf in West Germany on the opening day of European ski

jump week on Dec. 30 and then jumping well for seventh place in the second day.

Finland's ski jumping critics say Saorsa will take his place among the sport's elite if he can find consistency, a problem which faces all young jumpers, and cure a habit of displaying his skills during flight — a blemish which brings low marks from the style judges.

He will also need to stand comparison with a revived Nykanen who has been reinstated in the Finnish squad after patching things up with the Finnish ski federation.

Eminence in the sport in Finland, and elsewhere, is usually only reached by jumpers who start the sport at an early age and the number of good jumpers is low, inevitably, because most would-be practitioners are scared off by the dangers.

Saorsa, who is studying to be an electrician, began jumping when he was eight... and he has overcome any fear.

The Finnish national squad also contains several other promising youngsters including Ari-Pekka Nikkola, 16, who is feeling his way

into top-flight international competition.

Much is hoped from him in the sport which has captured the enthusiasm of the Finns since it was first introduced as a competitive event in 1886 in Helsinki.

Ski jumping was originally established even earlier in the century by Norway. Today, Norway, Finland and neighbouring Sweden make a powerful Nordic triumvirate.

They have been gradually joined on equal terms by countries in eastern and western Europe, Japan, the U.S. and Canada.

Stars like Nykanen couple with the advent of television have helped bring ski jumping to the notice of hundreds of millions of sports fans, but, strangely, the Finnish ski federation told Reuters there are no plans to formally celebrate the centenary.

With the growing appeal of the sport has come steady progress in its spectacle and appeal. The jumping — from natural hills or artificial ramps on to a profiled slope of hard-packed snow — has gradually increased in length and the first 100 metre leap was made in

Germany 50 years ago.

It has been customary to speak of 70-metre and 90-metre hills; but, on international recommendation, these names are now being changed to "low hill" and "high hill."

Ski jumping also includes ski flying which can only be done from giant hills at Oberstdorf in West Germany, Kulm in Austria, Planica in Yugoslavia and Vikersund in Norway.

The emphasis in ski flying is on length of jump, not style. The current world record is held by Nykanen with a leap of 191 metres made at Planica last year, the longest ever by a skier.

On the ground, a top-class sprinter would take almost 20 seconds to cover the distance. Jumpers doing ski flying are in the air longer.

Critics predict new record

Nykanen, a master of the sport, has said this season's ski flying championship at Kuusamo, is his major target and the critics have predicted a new record as Nykanen is expected to face challenges from all the top ski jumpers.



FRENCH CULTURAL CENTRE

TEL. 637009, 636445

Registration is now open at the French Cultural Centre for the following courses:

- French Language Courses (all levels) for adults and children.
- Preparation courses for the exams at Sorbonne University (Paris).
- Arabic Language Courses for Foreigners.
- Handicraft Courses (flower making, silk painting, ceramics).
- Computer courses.
- Exercise classes for ladies.
- Theatre workshop.
- Music courses (piano, flute...).

The registration will continue till Sunday 5th January and the courses start on Monday 6th January 1986. For more information please contact the library of the Centre, Telephone 636445.

NOTICE

The revised office timings of Embassy of India, Amman are as follows:
8.00 a.m. to 2.15 p.m. from Saturday to Thursday.
Consular services will be rendered on all working days except Wednesdays from 9.00 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The office will remain closed on Fridays.

CAR FOR SALE

BMW 320i, model 1983, 5-gear manual transmission. Customs duty unpaid. Mileage 35,000 km. White colour with full options, including electronic radio, A.C., power windows, steering and sun-roof. Tinted glass, central lock and alloy wheels.

Price: JD 2,300 cash
Please call tel: 821318 Amman

Cinema CONCORD

Tel: 677420
FALLING IN LOVE (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30



Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 625155
TIME RIDER (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

Cinema AL-HUSSEIN

Tel: 622112
A RUMOR OF WAR (Colour)

Performances: 12:00, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema Philadelphia

Tel: 634144 - 634149
BODY ROCK (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:15

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198
DELUGE (Colour)

Performances: 12:00, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 575573
DECEPTION (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

Mexico tells Reagan Latin America needs growth to repay debts

MEXICALI, Mexico (Agencies) — Mexican President Miguel De La Madrid, acting as a spokesman for Latin America, has told President Reagan that debtor nations need growth to repay their debts.

President De La Madrid focused on the burden of the region's \$370 billion debt during his annual summit with Mr. Reagan Friday.

"In order to pay, we need to grow," he told Mr. Reagan. "Even the most severe adjustment measures... by any Latin American country are insufficient to compensate for the extremely heavy burden of the foreign debt."

Mr. Reagan, accompanied by U.S. secretary of state, Mr. George Shultz, White House chief of staff Mr. Donald Regan and Treasury Secretary James Baker, heard President De La Madrid stress that the industrialised world should give urgent attention to the Montevideo declaration adopted by the 11-nation Cartagena Group of Latin debtors in December.

The document urges developed nations to recognise the need for adjustment in the world economy to permit growth in debtor countries.

Of the U.S. aid plan unveiled by Mr. Baker in October which stresses growth but envisages continuing austerity measures, President De La Madrid said: "We trust this attitude will be reinforced and become the starting

point for imaginative, efficient formulas."

Diplomats said the faint praise underlined Latin America's generally lukewarm opinion of the Baker plan.

President De La Madrid was less assertive about Central America and did not directly mention the faltering Contadora peace initiative, of which Mexico is a founding member.

He had previously criticised what the Mexicans believe is Washington's intransigent attitude towards the leftist rulers of Nicaragua.

"Mexico will persist, without respite or faltering, in its efforts to find an overall solution (for Central America)," he said.

The meeting, the 34th between U.S. and Mexican presidents since 1909, was held in what Mr. Reagan called "an open and candid manner."

It covered a range of bilateral issues including drug trafficking, mutual trade, U.S. aid and north-bound cross-border pollution, officials said.

President Reagan promised President De La Madrid that the United States "remains ready and willing" to help Mexico handle its \$96 billion foreign debt.

"Mexico's debt burden remains a serious challenge," Mr. Reagan told his host. "I'm impressed with the commitment you've made to meet this challenge and to take the necessary steps to achieve a robust, growing Mexican economy."

U.S. officials have pointed out Mexico's failure to meet agreed-upon guidelines for bringing inflation and spending under control.

Ichan gains control of TWA

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. financier Carl Ichan gained control of Trans World Airlines (TWA) Friday and will become its chairman without carrying out a cash merger agreement, the airline announced.

The agreement had been anticipated since Mr. Ichan had difficulty funding his previous plan for a merger.

Under the plan Mr. Ichan, who holds 52 per cent of the airline's stock, will exchange \$24 face value preferred shares for each of 12 million TWA shares or half the remaining outstanding stock.

The original merger agreement would have provided all minority shareholders with \$19.50 in cash and \$4.50 in preferred securities for each of the remaining 24 million shares.

In making the announcement, TWA also said it now appeared its losses for 1985 may be double the \$70 million it had projected in September when it reached a merger agreement with Mr. Ichan.

The company said that under Mr. Ichan it would consider cancelling the planned sale of its pars reservation system and attempt to raise \$750 million in new debt financing.

Mr. Ichan said in a statement that he had made arrangements for the investment house Drexel Burnham Lambert to obtain \$400 million in equipment trust certificates and \$350 million worth of unsecured debt.

TWA said its new loss projections stemmed from an industry-wide drop in traffic and fare discounting. It also said international traffic had been adversely affected by what it called recent terrorism.

TWA said Mr. Ichan notified it in December that he was considering exercising his right to terminate the merger agreement, but that he wished to explore other options.

TWA subsequently presented a proposal to Mr. Ichan and its unions for Texas Air Corp to buy TWA for \$22 per share in cash. But the unions took the position that Mr. Ichan, under agreements with the unions, could not sell to Texas Air.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JAN. 5, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a splendid day for you to delve into whatever philosophy of life appeals to you and to decide what is best for you to live under so that you can get ahead.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Depend upon your intuitive faculties and you can make real progress at this time. Come to right decisions with your mate.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Plan how best to please your partners and thereby gain fine benefits in the days ahead. Get the right solution to public affairs.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Plan early how to show appreciation to those who have been kind to you, and also be of help to friends who may be in trouble.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Plan fun that will relieve tensions you are under and restore your peace of mind. Bring out some talent you seldom use.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Know what is pleasing to him and try to make them happy at this time. Improve the experience of your home.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A good day to study just what you want most to do in the future and get wheels rolling in such direction.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study your property well and know how to improve it and add to it in the near future. Garner better information.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Know what your finest abilities are and use them to make a happier and more prosperous life for yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Sit in the privacy of your study and plan the future far more intelligently. Use vision. Be clever.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Listen to what a devoted friend has to suggest for your advancement in life and follow suggestions given to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Keep in touch with persons who appreciate your capabilities and impress them with your other talents.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Relax and think about how to make the future brighter for yourself and formulate a practical plan.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one of those delightful young persons who likes to ferret out information and solve problems that are difficult for others to tackle. Teach not to be such a loner and to be more cooperative with others who can be helpful.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Dec. 28, '85 and ending Wednesday Jan. 1, 1986 (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Jordan Islamic Bank	18594	47518	2.620	2.540	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	3029	7817	2.570	2.570	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	18820	29508	1.540	1.580	1.000
Housing Bank	1650	2594	1.600	1.560	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	6662	7196	1.090	1.080	1.000
Jordan Finance House	46125	42683	0.930	0.910	1.000
Islamic Investment House	13438	14060	1.040	1.050	1.000
Jordan National Bank	62903	176065	2.800	2.690	1.000
Jordan Investment & Finance Corporation	67132	45650	1.170	1.180	1.000
Finance & Credit Corporation (50%)	424677	181354	0.930	0.580	1.000
Darico Investment & House (75%)	11731	6122	0.790	0.770	1.000
Aqaro (75%)	900	545	0.600	0.600	1.000
National Portfolio Securities (50%)	5068	2788	0.550	0.550	1.000
National Financial Investments	218750	254116	1.170	1.080	1.000
Arab Bank Ltd.	1270	203090	160.000	163.000	10.000
Jerusalem Insurance	1010	1157	1.170	1.150	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	34819	112728	3.140	3.100	1.000
Refco Insurance (50%)	9212	3841	0.910	0.900	1.000
Jordan Electric Power	10764	16955	1.570	1.560	1.000
Arab International Hotels	1425	513	0.370	0.360	1.000
National Shipping Lines	3850	2830	0.750	0.720	1.000
Petra Project & Leasing Equipment	47576	13795	0.790	0.780	1.000
Jordan Dairy	16596	20248	1.250	1.120	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	3020	9457	3.150	3.140	1.000
National Steel Industries	2200	2655	1.200	1.200	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	14900	8818	0.610	0.620	1.000
Jordan Ceramic	800	824	1.050	1.030	1.000
Jordan Paper & Cardboard Factories	636	1557	2.500	2.450	1.000
Jordan Phosphates Mines	2049	4995	2.440	2.500	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	13500	15421	1.150	1.140	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	10200	2958	0.290	0.290	1.000
National Industries	31725	28721	0.920	0.930	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	14913	104108	6.950	6.750	5.000
Arab Investment Bank	12595	26333	2.060	2.100	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	2014	3929	1.960	1.920	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	150	201	1.320	1.340	1.000
Jordan Industries and Matches (JIMCO)	1100	835	0.760	0.770	1.000
Arab Financial Corp. (Jordan)	3500	4585	1.330	1.310	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergents	1550	6486	4.250	4.170	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	1850	2740	1.500	1.500	1.000
Petra Bank	6637	19879	2.960	3.200	1.000
Jordan Leasing and Equipment	17290	11501	0.660	0.670	1.000
Chemical Industries	11100	11665	1.060	1.060	1.000
Alladin Industries	4000	2711	0.680	0.710	1.000
Universal Insurance	1000	875	0.840	0.850	1.000
Arab Insurance	10913	7959	0.730	0.760	1.000
Industrial Development Bank	5250	8020	1.500	1.650	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	36	720	20.000	20.000	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	300	327	1.200	1.090	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	8760	4510	0.500	0.600	1.000
Jordan Worsted Mills	834	3183	3.800	3.750	1.000
Jordan Tanning	367	635	1.800	1.800	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes	200	2540	12.600	12.700	5.000
Arab Aluminium	44385	33565	0.760	0.770	1.000
Jordan Insurance	675	7714	11.450	11.400	1.000
United Insurance	245	613	2.500	2.500	1.000
Petra Insurance	2000	700	0.350	0.350	1.000
Management and Consulting	183903	54006	0.600	0.500	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	4200	4589	1.170	1.080	1.000
Woolen Industries	1400	1156	0.820	0.830	1.000
Arab Development and Investment	160600	105312	0.580	0.800	1.000
Jordan Industrial Investments	2550	1928	0.790	0.740	1.000
Rafia Plastic Bags	30050	30051	1.000	1.020	1.000
Grand total		1.639.398			

Dollar rises sharply

NEW YORK (R) — Staging a dramatic rebound from recent heavy losses, the dollar closed sharply higher Friday after a Japanese official talked down his own currency, dealers said.

Bank of Japan Governor Satoshi Sumita said he did not want the Japanese yen to strengthen further ahead of May's seven-nation economic summit in Tokyo.

His comments sparked short-covering that stretched right across the world from Asia to Europe to the U.S. and snapped the dollar back from a five-year low against the yen and 32-month lows against most European currencies, dealers said.

The dollar climbed to 203.15 Japanese yen from 198.55.

A number of participants had been looking for the dollar to recover slightly from Thursday's tumble.

"The dollar had such a big drop in such an extremely thin market that some correction was inevitable," an analyst said. But the extent of Friday's rebound took many by surprise.

Although they termed New York activity as moderate, dealers said that relatively thin post-holiday trading conditions prevailed here and in Europe, especially with the Tokyo markets closed, and contributed to the dollar's run-up.

The dollar rose four pfennigs to 2.4670 German marks from Thursday's anemic finish of 2.4340 marks.

Steep losses among the major foreign currency futures at the International Monetary Market in Chicago, which erased the large gains there of the past four sessions, also fuelled the dollar's rebound, dealers said.

Before the Japanese Kyodo News Service published Bank of Japan Governor Sumita's comments earlier Friday, many participants felt comfortable selling dollars below the psychological levels of 200 yen and 2.44 marks, analysts said.

"But with Sumita saying that a yen below 200 to the dollar was undesirable, no one wanted to hold a short dollar position," a dealer explained.

Analysts said the dollar's rebound would likely face a key test on Monday when the Tokyo foreign exchange markets reopen after being closed for about a week.

Dealers and other players will probably wait for further comments by Japan's central bank governor to gauge clues on whether Sumita envisions the dollar trading between 200 and 203 yen, or a wider range of 200 to 205 yen.

In the meantime, few expect the dollar to fall below 200 yen.

The British pound slipped two cents to \$1.4370 from \$1.4590 Thursday, but rose to 3.54 German marks from 3.53 marks Thursday night.

European stock exchanges post new highs

Meanwhile, share prices bounded higher in new year trading on Europe's stock exchanges Friday, taking key market indicators in London, Frankfurt, Zurich and Stockholm to record levels.

In London, the Financial Times index of 30 leading industrial shares closed at a record high, 11.1 points up on Thursday at 1149.6, against a previous closing peak of 1146.9 on Nov. 25.

Trading was thin and selective at first, but gained momentum as speculative demand and a shortage of stock pushed up prices, dealers said. Analysts see good first-quarter prospects as the market stabilises after uncertainties over oil prices.

In Frankfurt, the Commerzbank index of 60 leading German shares passed through the 2,000 level for the first time to reach a record of 2,025.9 points, up 88.5 on Thursday's close.

General confidence in the West German economy and in the ability of central banks to manage the dollar exchange rate spurred the market, dealers there said.

In Zurich, hectic trading saw Swiss Bank Corp's general share index hit a record high on the first trading day of 1986. It finished 3.7 per cent up at 659.8, with gains described by dealers as "unprecedented" and in some cases "unhealthy."

In Stockholm, very active trading saw the Veckans Affarer all-share index hit an all-time high for the second day running. It finished at 620.5 from 614.1 Thursday in a surge of pre-budget confidence in the Swedish economy.

The Paris bourse also saw end-1985 bullishness carried over in very active trading, with dealers seeing further scope for rises in share prices. The 50-share bourse index rose 2.1 per cent.

Milan closed firmer in active trading, and Dutch share prices also reflected a generally optimistic outlook for 1986, dealers said.

The New York stock market closed sharply higher in moderately active trading Friday and the Dow Jones industrial average gained 11.47 points to 1,549.20.

For the week, the Dow index rose 6.20, while in the first two trading days of 1986 there was a net gain of 2.53.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



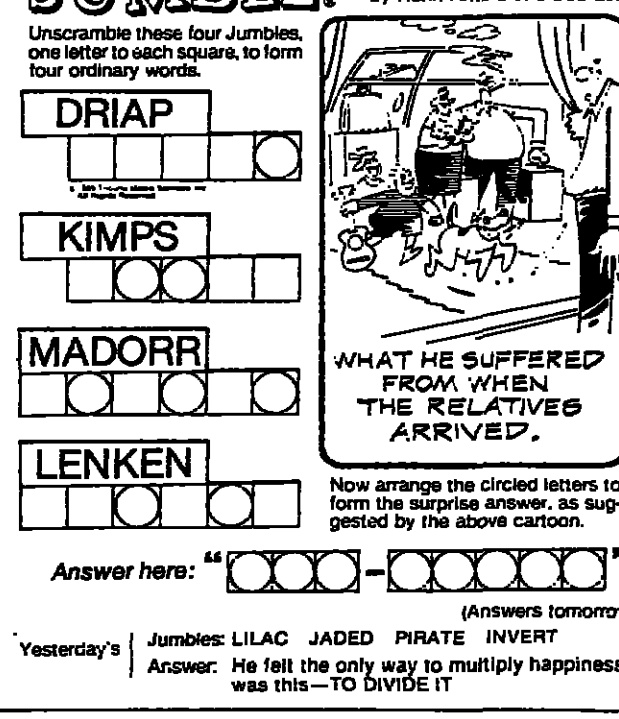
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE



THE Daily Crossword



SDI may give mighty boost for Moscow, experts say

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's "Star Wars" space defence project could backfire against the United States by providing a massive tonic for the Soviet Union's lacklustre economy, a U.S. research organisation reported Saturday.

The private New York-based Council on Economic Priorities (CEP) said the multi-billion-dollar U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), as "Star Wars" is officially known, could propel the Soviet economy into the 21st Century as Moscow sought to keep up with Washington in a space defence race.

"Although it is difficult to determine the precise impact of such a system on the Soviet economy, it may have a disproportionately positive effect," wrote CEP Director

Alice Marlin in a commentary on a special study of Soviet anti-missile technology.

The study, by Harvard University Soviet Economics Specialist Eric Stubbs, said the Soviet Union was at present 10 years behind the United States in computer, sensing and tracking technologies needed for viable defence against nuclear missiles.

But the report said that Moscow's pursuit of strategic defence "could well provide a powerful incentive to reform the Soviet economic infrastructure."

"The result could be a more modern, vigorous and technically capable USSR in the 21st Century," it added.

Stubbs wrote: "It is worth considering that U.S. efforts to force the Soviet Union into an accelerated Star Wars race that the USSR is presently less equipped to fight may, in the long run, backfire."

"Pressing the Soviet Union toward this policy change may not be in the best long-term interests of the United States."

On a separate issue the Washington Post said Saturday the United States and the Soviet Union may meet as early as next month to plan talks aimed at curbing the spread of chemical weapons.

Quoting unidentified administration officials, the paper said a U.S. task force plans to ask Moscow to set a date for talks on reducing the production of chemical weapons.

Both countries agreed to "initiate a dialogue on preventing the proliferation of chemical weapons" after the Geneva summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Nov. 21.

Kenneth Adelman, who heads the U.S. task force on chemical weapons, told the Post that more than 15 nations are believed to have chemical weapons and urgent action is needed to stop breaches of the ban on the use of poison gas.

TASS assails Reagan's remarks on C. America

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet News Agency TASS has attacked President Ronald Reagan for alleging that Moscow was involved in "malevolent activities" in Central America and said the reverse was true.

The state agency said Mr. Reagan's remarks, made to the news agency Noticias De Mexico, and those by other State Department officials, were "a specimen of political hypocrisy and slander."

"The situation in Central America, just as in other 'hot spots' on the planet, is rooted in U.S. policy which is aimed at implanting and preserving the order it likes and... interfering in affairs of sovereign states," TASS said.

In the interview, given some time ago but released only Thursday Mr. Reagan accused the

Soviet Union of "subversion and support for terrorism" in the region.

The release of the interview came a day after an unprecedented exchange of televised New Year's messages by Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to each other's peoples.

Mr. Reagan, who met President Miguel de la Madrid Friday arriving for a visit to Mexico, told the Mexican agency that the governments of Soviet allies such as Cuba and Nicaragua were becoming increasingly linked with narcotics trafficking.

In a separate dispatch, TASS said the root of American drug problems lay in rackets set up by big business and with the connivance of U.S. police.

Colombia urges clearing of area around volcano

BOGOTA (R) — Colombian authorities Saturday urged the immediate evacuation of low-lying areas around the Nevado Del Ruiz Volcano, fearing flooding and mudslides due to renewed volcanic activity.

Presidential Secretary-General Victor Ricardo said in a statement that people living along five rivers on both sides of the volcano, which erupted on Nov. 13 killing 23,000 people, should abandon their houses and flee to higher ground.

Mr. Ricardo emphasised that the measure was precautionary and pleaded for an orderly evacuation of the towns of Mariquita,

Honda, Guayabal, Ambalema and Chinchina and the valleys of the rivers Azufrado, Lagunilla, Guali, Reccio and Chinchina.

Scientists monitoring the volcano reported increased seismic activity, with ash spewing from it. They feared there could be avalanches, triggered by a thaw of the snow cap covering the 5,400-metre volcano.

The volcano has been rumbling since the November disaster, which buried the town of Armero under an avalanche of mud and rocks but it is the first time the government has urged an evacuation.

Several Indian opposition groups form alliance

NEW DELHI (R) — Several Indian opposition leaders formed a new alliance Saturday aimed at taking joint action on major political issues, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

The new agency said officials of 13 regional and opposition political parties met in the southern city of Hyderabad and decided to set up a common forum "to preserve the country's unity and integrity."

The meeting was called by film-star politician N.T. Rama Rao, whose regional Telugu Desam Party has ruled Andhra Pradesh state for three years. PTI said those attending included Surjit Singh Barnala, who heads the moderate Sikh Akali Dal government in Punjab state, and leaders of another regional group, the Assam People's Front, which won power in Assam state last month.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, whose Congress (I) Party has lost state elections in both Punjab and Assam in the past three months, launched a savage attack on opposition groups last week.

"Their ideological roots are shallow, their political outlook circumscribed by region, caste and religion. Wherever they have come to power, they have retarded progress," he said.

PTI said the opposition groups described Mr. Gandhi's outburst

as "intemperate and irresponsible." "Patriotism is not the monopoly of any particular party," they said in a statement.

"This meeting feels that dubbing the democratic aspirations of the people of several states as anti-national is itself a gross anti-national act which in no way serves the cause of national unity," the statement added.

Regional groups like the Akali Dal and the Assam People's Front have emerged as a major force in the Lok Sabha, parliament's Lower House, holding 65 of the 544 seats. Opposition groups also rule nine of India's 22 states.

Meanwhile in Punjab a schoolteacher was shot dead in a village Saturday by suspected Sikh extremists gunmen, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

Armed police surrounded the village of Khalowal in Gurdaspur district bordering Pakistan and launched a manhunt for the gunman, who escaped on a motorcycle, the news agency quoted police as saying.

The attack was the fourth in as many days blamed on extremists fighting for a separate Sikh nation called Khalistan in Punjab.

Sikh extremists have killed about 50 people and wounded more than 100 in the past three months in the troubled north Indian state.

Bombs, gunfire rock Sri Lankan town

COLOMBO (R) — Bomb explosions and gunfire rocked Jaffna in northern Sri Lanka Saturday and landmines prevented members of a ceasefire monitoring committee reaching the city.

Defence Ministry sources said the committee members were stranded at the Palaly Airport because Tamil separatist guerrillas had planted landmines on the road to Jaffna, capital of northern province.

Several people were wounded in battles between guerrillas and troops sent to remove the landmines, they said.

Gunfire and bomb blasts were heard in Jaffna during the clashes in which residents said at least three people were killed and 14 wounded.

The committee appointed by the government to monitor last June's ceasefire agreement between Tamil guerrillas and gov-

S. African death toll reaches 27

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Police said Saturday they shot dead a man in the troubled Moutse area, where villagers are battling against incorporation into a tribal homeland set up for blacks under apartheid.

Police said the black man died Friday night when they fired birdshot and teargas to break up an illegal gathering, arresting 16 people, after a petrol bomb was thrown at one of their vehicles.

The death brought the official toll in the New Year to 27, but Moutse residents have reported at least 11 other unconfirmed deaths in the violence in their remote rural area of scattered villages, north east of Pretoria.

In Port Elizabeth, police banned a memorial service set for Saturday for leading anti-apartheid activist Molly Blackburn.

Thousands of black people had been expected to pay tribute to Blackburn, one of the white activists most respected by blacks. Police said the service might have been a danger to public safety.

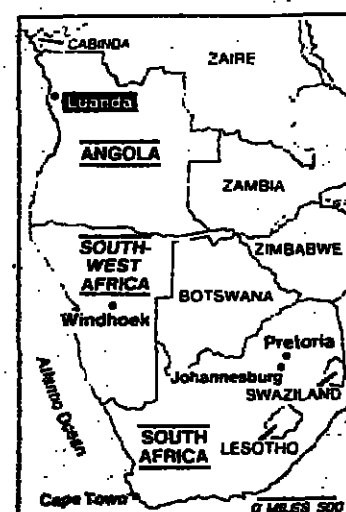
The campaigner's close friend Di Bishop, who was badly injured and lost her husband in the car crash which killed Blackburn, told reporters Friday night that the ban on the memorial service was gross interference by the state.

Bishop described Blackburn's funeral on Thursday, attended by some 15,000 black people, many of them radical youths, as "a very significant non-racial event which proved black and white South Africans can live and work and mourn together."

"The only reason I can think of for the ban is that they find this kind of occasion a threat to the survival of apartheid," she said.

Police reported five more deaths Friday, including one in fighting around Moutse in the Transvaal, where residents say they are battling vigilantes from Kwa-Ndebele tribal homeland.

On Friday night the South African authorities issued statements



rejecting criticism over Moutse, whose villagers have vowed to resist its incorporation into Kwa-Ndebele, one of 10 homelands set up under apartheid for the black majority.

Kwa-Ndebele is due to accept nominal independence, a status not recognised internationally and which Moutse people say they fear would deprive them of South African citizenship.

Pretoria, which says it will seek to restore citizenship to those who lost it when other homelands took "independence," said it had offered to resettle Moutse people and "considered the matter with the greatest understanding and compassion."

Moutse residents say they do not want to move and that the land they were offered is much poorer than their relatively prosperous district.

Police, replying to residents' claims that the authorities had done little to stop the alleged vigilante attacks, said: "We reject the connotation that the police have an indifferent attitude... police are striving to contain the unrest and lawlessness in the area."

Meanwhile South Africa says its security forces killed nearly 600 nationalist guerrillas in Namibia in

1985 and denies guerrilla claims to have opened up a military corridor into the South African-held territory.

In a statement Friday night, the South African-led South West African Territory Force said 599 South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrillas had been shot dead last year, compared with 566 in 1984.

A spokesman dismissed as propaganda SWAPO's claim to have opened up a military corridor in northern Namibia that would allow it to strike deep inside the vast, mainly desert country.

SWAPO is waging a 20-year-old bush war against South African rule of Namibia, which Pretoria controls in defiance of the United Nations.

State-run South African television, backing up previous reports from Maseru, said Friday night that South Africa was turning away most Lesotho nationals at the border.

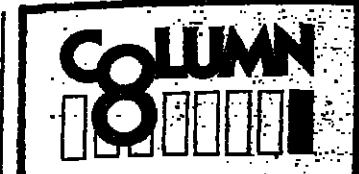
Television News said that only migrant mineworkers and emergency workers from Lesotho were being allowed across, and showed film of long queues building up at the border as South African officials stepped up checks on permits and passports.

The report said the South African authorities had given no reason for the clampdown and no comment was immediately available from the South African Foreign Affairs Department.

In Maseru Friday, Lesotho government officials said the partial ban apparently started on New Year's Day.

Lesotho Information Minister Desmond Sixhe told Reuters he thought South Africa was retaliating against Lesotho's petition to the United Nations Security Council this week over the killing on Dec. 20 of nine people in Maseru.

Pretoria has rejected Lesotho's claim that it was responsible for the deaths. The Security Council unanimously condemned South Africa for the killings.



Kuwaiti family 'books seats' for space voyage

KUWAIT (AP) — A Kuwaiti family has paid \$156,000 for three seats on the first commercial voyage into outer space scheduled for Oct. 12, 1992, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported Saturday. The agency said the family refused to be named and the three members involved were not identified. According to the agency report, the 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

The 8-12 hour trip in space was sponsored by a company called Expeditionary Society to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of "the new world."

It said that the U.S. company American Pacific is building the special spaceship, which will be able to accommodate 20 passengers. The only "conditions" for would-be passengers was "good health and enough money," the agency added.

Malaysian opposition accused of inciting unrest

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam Saturday accused an opposition party of inciting its followers to wage "holy war" against the government.

His attack on the Parti Se-Islam Malaysia (PAS) came after state-run television for the first time showed scenes of a clash between police and Muslim fundamentalists last November in which 18 people were killed.

Mr. Musa, who is also home minister, said at a press conference:

"The exploitation of the religious element, especially Islam, for political ends is as dangerous or more dangerous than (the exploitation) of racial sentiments."

He said PAS's encouragement of a "holy war" had threatened the country's stability. The party has a strong following in the rural states of Kedah, Perlis, Trengganu and Kelantan.

Radio Television Malaysia Friday night screened a 40-minute police video of the clash between 400 Muslims and more than 200 police in the northern village of Kemali, in Kedah.

It showed women and children chanting "God is Great" and waving sharpened bamboo sticks and knives at police in support of Muslim leader Ibrahim Libya Mahmood. One man was shown being gunned down as he ran at police wielding a sword.

Nigerian coup plotters killed in plane crash

LAGOS (R) — A group of Nigerian officers accused of involvement in an unsuccessful coup were killed in a plane crash on New Year's Eve, the government has announced.

A spokesman for the president, Gen. Ibrahim Babangida, said the plane, a presidential jet, crashed while bringing the accused to Lagos from the central Nigerian town of Makurdi.

Presidential spokesman Duro Onabule told Reuters that seven or eight people were killed in the

plane crash but their names would not be announced until their families had been told.

Onabule gave no further details of the crash but the official News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), reported that a Hawker Siddeley HS-125 of the presidential fleet crashed on New Year's Eve at Kaduna in northern Nigeria.

The NAN report did not mention who was on the plane, but the circumstances made clear it was talking about the same air crash.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1985 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

TREASURE YOUR ENTRIES

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ 62
♦ 52
♦ 10753
♦ K1982

WEST
♦ 94
♦ J10973
♦ K862
♦ 43

EAST
♦ K1085
♦ K864
♦ Q9
♦ A65

SOUTH
♦ A973
♦ A9
♦ A14
♦ Q107

The bidding:
South West North East
2NT Pass 3NT Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♣.

If you like the idea of mastering one facet of bridge at a time, you can't do much better than collecting the excellent series of workbooks first designed by French internationalist Roger Trezel and subsequently updated and translated by one of the world's great players/writers, Terence Reese. (Those Extra Chances in Bridge, by Terence Reese and Roger Trezel, 66 pp., paperback. Available from The Bridge World, 39 West 94th St., New York, N.Y. 10025, at \$5.95 including postage.) If you have a mild quibblé about the price of the new volume, it certainly delivers full value.

"On some hands were the declarer needs entries to dummy, he may be able to exploit the fact that the defenders cannot afford to release their controls. The point of that remark is demonstrated by this deal..."

"Counting his tricks, South noted that even if he were able to establish and run the clubs, he would need at least two tricks from spades. If the defenders were able to shut out the club suit by holding up the ace, then declarer would have to rely on his second round and make four tricks in spades, together with two clubs, two hearts and one diamond."

"As he might need two entries to dummy for spade finesse, South began by overtaking the ten of clubs with the jack. When East held up the ace, South took advantage of the entry to dummy by finessing the queen of spades. This was good play because, as we have seen, two spade tricks would be needed in any event."

"When the queen of spades held, South led the queen of clubs, overtaking with the king. East, once again, could not afford to part with the ace. South then finessed the jack of spades and continued with ace and another. This gave him four tricks in spades. By clever management of entries he made his game contract."

The book is replete with such nuggets—pure gold!

U.S. jail inmates free last 7 hostages

MOONSVILLE, West Virginia (AP) — Rioting inmates freed their last seven hostages and relinquished control of the West Virginia penitentiary after killing three prisoners in a siege that started as a protest of bad conditions and ended in a destructive rampage.

Gov. Arch Moore said the three dead inmates were apparently considered "snitches (collaborators)" and had been killed following mock trials held by inmates acting as "judge, jury and executioner."

"We've got three dead inmates and the rest of them we found alive," state police superintendent W.F. Donohoe said late Friday after all areas of the prison had been inspected.

"Three of them were hidden, well-hidden because they feared execution," he said. "We found one of them on top of the security cells, one in between two block walls and one on top of an oven."

Sixteen hostages were taken when knife-wielding inmates took

over the penitentiary on New Year's Day. The prisoners agreed Thursday to free their captives in stages in return for a meeting with Moore to discuss grievances in the dilapidated, 120-year-old prison.

Officials said one of the hostages had been seriously injured. After the agreement was reached, prisoners swarmed through the main building Thursday night, raided the hospital drug dispensary and went on a rampage, officials said. Some areas of the prison were heavily damaged.

The prisoners were placed under a lockdown after the siege. "I think a group in the institution sat both as judge, jury and executioner of their own justice," the governor said. A prison "snitch system" in which inmates were encouraged to inform on each other could have contributed to the violence, he added.

The agreement signed Thursday by state officials said there would be "no reprisals" against inmates for participating in the two days of rioting. But Moore

said there would be no amnesty for those who committed murders or other crimes.

The hostages, several lacking shoes, walked out one by one. Some were accompanied by Moore, who went to the prison once final details of the release had been arranged.

Moore and Corrections Commissioner A.V. Dodrill, accompanied by two bodyguards, then entered the prison to meet with an eight-member inmate grievance committee. Emerging about 90 minutes later, the governor said he listened but made no promises.

"I went to listen, not to lecture," Moore said. He said many complaints dealt with inmates' personal problems, and that many could be resolved administratively.

Inmates also complained about conditions at the prison, including inadequate heating, but Moore said he was not sure what could be done.

Countdown begins again for U.S. shuttle Columbia

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — The countdown began Saturday for another try at launching space shuttle Columbia and a crew of seven on a flight that was aborted two weeks ago just 14 seconds before liftoff.

Columbia, the flagship of the nation's shuttle fleet, is scheduled to blast off at 7:05 a.m. (1205 GMT) Monday to start its first mission in more than two years.

The craft recently completed an 18-month overhaul for installation of sophisticated gear already aboard its three sister ships. The crew flew here Friday from the astronaut training base in Houston. It includes U.S. Representative Bill Nelson, a Democrat whose district includes Cape Canaveral and the Kennedy Space Centre.

"We're looking forward now to being the first flight of 1986 instead of the last flight of 1985, and we're ready to go," Mission Commander Robert Gibson told reporters.

Mr. Nelson, chairman of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Space Science and Applications, is the second congressional observer named to a shuttle flight. Senator Jake Garn, a Utah Republican, chairman of a subcommittee that oversees funding for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), flew last April.

The other crew members are

Charles Bolden, Steve Hawley, George Nelson, Robert Cenker and Franklin Chang-Diaz, the first Hispanic-American astronaut.

During five days in orbit, the astronauts are to deploy a communications satellite for the American company RCA, photograph Halley's Comet and other celestial bodies and conduct medical, materials processing and other experiments.

Mr. Gibson and his crew boarded Columbia on Dec. 19 and were just 14 seconds from launching when a computer stopped the countdown after it detected what appeared to be a turbine spinning too fast. The turbine was in a hydraulic power unit that helps guide the steering nozzle of one of the solid fuel rockets that boost the shuttle toward orbit.

The trouble was traced to a small electrical part less than 2 1/2 centimetres long that was in a package that relayed electronic signals to the power unit.

NASA said the defective part was a new type designed to military specifications. Those requirements made the part more sensitive than those previously used, causing it to pick up normal electronic noise and to erroneously report the turbine was running too fast. The turbine, in fact, was operating normally.

The bad part has been replaced by one of the older, less sensitive ones.

Churchill's nephew given bail on drug charges

LONDON (R) — Sir Winston Churchill's aristocratic great-nephew, who spent Christmas in jail on cocaine charges, was given bail by a high court judge on condition that he went to stay in a drug rehabilitation centre. The 30-year-old Marquess of Blandford, heir to a £40-million (\$56-million) fortune as son of the Duke of Marlborough, was ordered to appear in court again on Jan. 20. His release from London's grim Wormwood Scrubs Prison was dependent on relatives providing £10,000 (\$14,000) in sureties. The marquis, who stands to inherit Blenheim Palace, where Churchill was born, was accused